Little Ducks Childcare Bardon

November/December 2020

A note from your Centre Manager

Dear Families of Bardon, we acknowledge the traditional lands of the Turrbal people and recognize the strength and resilience of the Aboriginal people of this land .

Thanks for joining me for the last edition of this Bardon Newsletter and checking out what exciting adventures we have been on this month. The warmer weather is upon us, this means we have to be very mindful of our time spent in our outdoor environments. We will continue to focus and learn about sun safety (slip, slop, slap) and a reminder to start packing spare clothing as water play begins.



This month we celebrated Dress like a Pirate day as well as holding our end of year Kindergarten Information night. Miss Vicki was able to showcase the Kindy school readiness Program she has in place. Thank you to all those parents who attended, it was a great turn out.

It's a busy time of year as 2021 is approaching. The re-enrolment process has been completed and new bookings have been entered. A friendly reminder that if you need to change your booking agreement for 2021 to let me know as soon as possible.



This month we are very proud to announce miss Fiona as the overall Educator of the month for the Little Ducks service. As we all know Miss Fiona is a very dedicated educator with a huge heart and understanding for capturing and scaffolding children's learning in a range of different ways. We are so very proud to have Fiona as a Team leader here at Bardon .

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Kindergarten Approved Program — Queensland Government

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Upcoming Events

Monday 2-6th Nov —Henny Penny Project



Wednesday 11th Nov — Remembrance Day



Monday 9th– 15th Nov NAIDOC Week



Centre Photos 17th , 18th and 19th Nov



Graduation—Thursday 10th Dec





Christmas celebrations week— 14th 18th Dec



Policies in Review

We value your input and feedback….The policies in review are:

- Additional needs
- Code of Ethics
- Discrimination, harassment, bullying and occupational violence
- Medication
- Medical conditions
- Food, nutrition and beverage
- Sleep, rest, relaxation and clothing
- Holiday discount

Ways to provide feed back are:

Policies are available in the office and you can give feedback by sending an email to bardon@littleducks.com.au.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated and what better way to share this then go on-to google and leave a review!

Educator Spotlight …

Miss Osi



Miss Osi is a diploma qualified Educator who has been working in the early years sector for the last 2 years. We are very fortunate to have Osi as one of our passionate educators in our toddler room along side Miss Ash and Miss Chrish. Osi has a gift that allows her to write such meaningful moments about the children's learning and mile stones.

Development information

The Benefits of Storytelling

Sparking a passion for reading from a young age is so important for a child's development, and it's fun!
Children instinctively love books and stories as they are introduced to wonderful ideas, places, and creatures they haven't before encountered.
Through stories children are able to learn more about life, the world, and themselves. Aside from creating a bonding opportunity, there are so many benefits to reading with your child.







OUTCOME 5—Effective communicators
5.2 engage with a range of text and gain meaning from these texts

Nursery Natter!

Welcome to the Nursery news. We have had a busy but exciting month and we would love to welcome our new babies Rupert, Ethan and Sofia. The babies have been displaying involvement towards their learning and development. We look forward to getting to know the babies personality, likes and dislikes.



We are working towards building a strong sense of identity with our new children and have already built connections with our other babies. Consistency of seeing a familiar face each day and within the Circle of Security we have a safe, secure and trusting environment.

We have been practicing our name and simple words such as mum, dad, dog. The older babies have been helping to pack away our toys/blocks achieving a sense of belonging and self-help skills. The babies have been developing skills towards interacting with each other. It is lovely to see them move towards each other smiling and babbling showing that they have made connections with each other. To help our language flourish we have been interacting with finger puppets and reading stories such as “Three little pigs”, “Spot the dog”, “Guess how much I love you”. The babies are learning to listen, interact and enjoy picture books.



In move and Groove we have been learning to balance. Climbing up and balancing our body along a plank is a skill we are trying to achieve. Sometimes we need a helping hand and we love achieving a gross motor milestone. We have also explored stepping on varied stones by ourselves and with help holding their hand. We will continue to explore balancing into the month of November.



We have been working on our self-help skills such as feeding ourselves and washing our own hands and face. The babies enjoy trying to fill their own spoon and eat it by themselves. Through praise and practice we will continue to work on our self-help skills. The babies have also enjoyed many sensory experiences such as pasta scooping, oats and funnels, flower soup, animals in jelly. The children enjoy feeling the different textures and responding to their own ideas and feelings in this play.
It has been wonderful to see our babies learning and developing through their interests and skills and we are looking forward to encouraging and supporting our little friends in the next coming months.



Thank you,
Miss Tammie and
Miss Caitlyn.



Senior Nursery Natter!



Welcome Senior Nursery families to our October and November newsletter, we have had a great two months of meaningful learning in the Senior Nursery Room, and we welcomed some new children who have recently joined us. We have also welcomed Miss Fran into Senior Nursery as the educator to work alongside Miss Ally and support your children with their learning. The Senior Nursery children have been focusing on care and empathy as well as exploring sustainability methods and our move and groove program; this month we are focusing on balancing.



Our Senior Nursery children are becoming familiar with recognition of animals. It's great to see them building verbal communication and confidence as they communicate the names and sounds together in small and large group experiences.

Practicing sustainability empowers children to construct knowledge, explore values and develop an appreciation of the environment and its relationship to their worlds. This lays the foundations for an environmentally responsible adulthood. We have been busy with sustainability over the last couple of months. We have been learning about water usage, recycling, and carbon footprint. Now that it is starting to warm up, we have been doing lots of water play and after wards we go around and water all the different plants that are in our garden. We have been making different things out of recycled materials such as music shakers, cubby houses and recycled boxes to make cars out of.

Helping young children to develop a strong sense of empathy is beneficial because: It helps them to build a sense of security and stronger relationships with other children and educators, positioning them well for learning. It encourages tolerance and acceptance of others. It promotes good mental health. Empathy and care is something we have been spending a lot of time on and doing lots of different activities to encourage empathy and care such as group experiences, home corner experiences, ball games and other physical activities that we work together as a group.





Miss Ally and Miss Fran

Toddler Tales!

What a fun but busy month it has been in Toddlers, we have been busy bees. We have had some new faces join us here in the toddler room, and we welcome them all. Building trust and secure relationships with all our families is very important and we are very proud of each of them as they have developed a trusting relationship with us all in their own individual way. We have also celebrated many Birthday and we thank you for allowing us to celebrate this mile stone with us.



This month we have been learning about self resilience and continued to learn about our emotions. We have embedded opportunities to support this learning in our every day routine, allowing the children to discuss how they feel each day , and use coloured pompoms as a way to reflect our emotions.



The Toddlers have been doing what we like to call “Random acts of kindness”; by helping a friend when needed, reading a book to someone, giving a hug or a high five, watering the garden and helping to pack away the room and giving little gifts to their educators and the other rooms. A random act of kindness is a inconsistent action designed to offer kindness towards the outside world .

Language and Culture is very important, and we are embedding culture into our program by learning to count in French as well as how to say hello and how are you. This had led us to learn how to count from 1-10 in Spanish as well as how to say hello, goodbye, how are you and thank you. We are so proud of the Toddlers confidence in learning cultural language and their pronunciation.





Over the month we have also been focusing on carbon footprint, taking care of the environment and being environmentally friendly with Miss Chrish through the importance of recycling, how worms can support our growing gardens and vegetation. Toddlers are such enthusiastic investigators and when given the opportunity to explore and get messy they really shine with excitement. We explored the benefits of earth worms were we discovered they increase nutrients and improve farm productivity. The fascination the toddlers had as we explored the earthworms through magnified glasses to discover the worms font have legs but are fast movers.

Toddler Tales!



The past few weeks the weather has been getting warmer, so we have decided to implement water play in our daily routine. We have been using the use of ice into our program by freezing animals and objects for the Toddlers to explore and to further develop their cognitive and thinking skills. From here its enlightened the Toddler's interest in sea life, and what a great interest to have for the next month were we can learn and understanding the differences between sea and land creatures.

Our outdoor environment is also a great place were we can provided obstacles and equipment to change the toddlers gross motor skills. This links to our Move and grove modules were we are supporting the skills to enhance the children's balance and co ordination. Yoga is a skills any age can participate in and has many benefits not only physically but mentally. And each day we take the time to allow the children to patriciate in a form of yoga and or meditation.



Miss Ash, Miss Chrish and Miss Osi.









Junior Kindy Jumble!

The children have continued to demonstrate their love of learning this term by taking on new and exciting challenges and experiences within our program.



The junior kindy program had a large focus on science this past couple of months, we conducted a number of hands-on experiments to support the children's understanding of the ocean, water cycle and outer space. Miss Francedid and I have noticed that the children have grown and developed independence throughout the learning opportunities. The children are concentrating for longer at activities, following directions better and having some lovely interactions with their peers.

We have been making some small tweaks to our rest-time routine so the children are more settled and can make predicted changes through the day. This has started with offering rest time to children or outside activities and we are noticing that children are making their decisions to either play or rest. We are aware of visual cues when it comes to children being tired and we encourage them to have a 10-minute rest 'mind and your body' so that they are recharged for the afternoon.



We have also been working really hard with the group at our morning group time sessions to get everyone to participate and have fun at these times. We have introduced some new group games and songs to ensure all of the children are having a turn and contributing which helps them gain skills in sharing, turn taking, listening to others as well as building their independence, resilience and confidence.



Junior Kindy Jumble!



The children always enjoy active play and like moving over obstacle courses, especially the climbing frames. They have a lot of cooperative play on the slide and the fort and in the sandpit to encourage sharing and turn taking outside as well while practicing their gross motor and balancing skills. Our move and groove program is focused on balancing as we work on our confidence in walking, crawling along a beam, rope, or drawn line. We will continue this until the end of the month.

All the children continue to be interested in our gardening, from watering the plants, growing plants from seed and even getting to eat some of the herbs they have grown, during our exploration of 'Eating the rainbow' we had the opportunity to sample some of the herbs on green day, we have so much parsley and basil that we have started to harvest some. These will be in little bundles placed on top of the lockers if you want to take some home. Our discovery garden vegetable, herb, and flower seedlings are all growing well, and we look forward to putting some colour into the playground.



We have a very exciting and full month ahead of us, filled with fun events and activities, this month we are celebrating: book week which will be followed by the henny penny hatching program and NAIDOC week a week later and Remembrance Day to follow. Please let us know if you would love to add anything into the program, we love working with parents to provide the best possible education for your children.

Thank you

Francedid and Fiona





Kindy Catch Up!

What's been happening in Kindergarten?

Miss Vicki has been building positive relationships with children and families as she listens to children's needs, wants and interests to learn about every child to support and challenge them to fulfil their goals ready for Prep.



Eddie the teddy has been welcomed into our Kindergarten, as children involve Eddie in our daily learning through play. Eddie brings out the best in children, their love, happiness, responsibility, tenderness, and caring for someone (or something) other than themselves. Eddie has been the highlight of our Show 'n' Share as family's welcome Eddie into their family homes and at times head off on an adventure.

During September, children have engaged in literacy, investigating parts of a book and its purpose. Spine/ Pages/ Front cover/ Back cover. We extended the learning exploring different types of books and their purpose. Children became interested in 'Once upon a time', stories or made up stories. Leading the learning into familiar nursery rhyme favourites: 'Jack and the beanstalk'; 'Red Riding hood'; 'The Gingerbread Man'. Children unpacked each story by recalling the setting, characters, problem and if the problem was solved. Children reflected on their learning through drama where they added props from available resources.



Our Move and Grove program has supported children in gross motor skills to jump and balance as they build strong core strength. We created a list of children's ideas or activities that enhanced jumping and balance and put them into action.



To encourage agency and a sense of belonging, children were encouraged to plan our classroom layout, adding in resources and furniture of interest. Our Art area allows children to explore on their own, using materials in their own ways and prepares them for school through the manipulation of various tools. Tape dispenser/ Scissors/ Paint tools/ Writing tools/ glue/ staplers.

Kindy Catch Up!



Our home corner, we added more variety of dressups, a real china tea set, Barbie Dolls and cooking books. Home corner allows children to at any time transform the area into a hospital, fire station or of what is of interest to them. During our community helpers learning, children transformed this area into a doctor's surgery with a reception area.

An early numeracy area has been created with a variety of challenging board games, dices, tangrams, colours, shapes and numeracy books. Children this month have shown an interest in tangrams during social play, as they work together problem solving

Literacy space has allowed children a place to go when they wish to be alone of just engage in quiet activities. We added, story sacks, variety of books and magazines, puzzles, literacy games, felt story boards and loads of cushions. A couch is on the way.
Science area has become a space of interest to most of the Kindergarten children, as they continue to explore their interest in technology with the main focus on robots. A lightbox has been added to allow children to observe objects of interest in more detail along with magnify glasses and bug containers.

Our learning mat encourages children to come together to collaborate ideas and thoughts as a whole group. This month experiences have included, yoga practice, exercises, talking stick, clapping sticks and a variety of games.

Mr Tyler has been welcomed into our Kindergarten Classroom as our Educator supporting children by listening, making eye contact and engaging in many one-to-one, face-to-face interactions with children to promote secure educator-child relationships.

A visit from our local Firefighters, thanks to Harrison's Dad, has taken us on a leaning journey, exploring 'Community Helpers'. Each day children chose a different community helper to explore. Learning about Community Helpers offers lots of benefits for children: Promotes safety by teaching children how to ask for help, and just as importantly, who to ask. Inspires interest in possible careers. When children meet the people who keep our communities safe, clean and orderly, they're also learning about lots of different exciting jobs. Encourage interest in one's own community. We can help our Community Helpers by not littering, driving safely and practicing other good habits.

Kindy Catch Up!



Incursion: 17th November 2020 Cool Kids First Aid is a fun and interactive session that is age appropriate and is designed as an introduction to essential life saving skills.

Getting Ready for Big School is our November focus, as children transform their home corner into a classroom. Adding in, sight words, uniforms, books, pencils, writing books, a desk and other items through children's input. To support school meal breaks, children will be encouraged to sit on stools away from tables or on mats and engaging in collaborative conversations about packing healthy lunch boxes, what to eat at each lunch break and the importance of drinking water. Miss Vicki has a number of books to share, about school readiness to support children on their first day of Prep, the night before prep (feelings and emotions), saying goodbye to mum and dad and what will happen in Prep and extending the learning through children's questions, feelings, thoughts and ideas.



Children will be encouraged to fill their individual water bottles throughout the day. Practicing keeping our hair tied up and keeping our shoes and socks on all day. (Excluding rest time or yoga practice). Packing their bags and caring their own bag to and from kindergarten

Miss Vicki has been networking with schools children will be attending in 2021. I have been lucky enough to have some of the schools donate school uniforms and photos to help support our school readiness learning.

Transition Statements are valued by schools as a source of information to understand each child's learning progress and to support successful transition to school. Statements will be completed by the beginning of December on a portal. To start the process each family will receive a permission letter in the coming weeks, in which I will explain the process in person.

Happy Learning

Miss Vicki and Mr Tyler





Our Community ...





Our calendar is full of special events and celebrations. The last few weeks have been busy within the community and we love the dedication that every one puts in to participate.

WELL DONE





Our Community ...





Remembrance day is not far away, Ashgrove library has provided us with a community wall to display our services acknowledgment of this important day! Come down and check it out soon !!

Healthy Habits!

Does your child eat breakfast every morning? Find out why eating a balanced breakfast is crucial to ensure your child stays happy and healthy.
We often hear that ‘breakfast is the most important meal of the day!’, yet according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, one in seven Australian children skip the morning meal regularly.

Skipping breakfast can cause a range of health problems for children, contribute to poor academic performance and can even cause behavioural problems in the classroom.

It is really important that we, as parents and teachers, encourage our children to eat a healthy nutritious breakfast every day, here are some reasons why:

- Breakfast increases your child’s concentration levels and improves their ability to learn
- Helps them to maintain a healthy weight and decrease the likelihood of obesity
- Strengthens heart, bones, muscles and joints, which will help reduce serious childhood health problems
- Brightens their mood by providing them with energy which helps build positive self-image
- And helps to develop positive breakfast habits that they will take into adulthood.

