



# Little Ducks Childcare Bardon

January /February 2021

## A note from your Centre Manager

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

Its our first Newsletter for 2021 and thank you for participating . My Name is Miss Sam and I'm proud to announce my one year anniversary here at Bardon Little Ducks. 2020 was a challenging and memorable year for all of us but I'm so glad I got to share it with such a strong community and together we achieved so many goals.

The start of any year is also exciting, I believe, which allows me the opportunity to get to meet new families as they start their new chapter in the childcare and then the proud moment of saying good bye and thank you to the families moving onto prep. I'm honoured to have been a part of your journey.

A friendly reminder that just like 2020 our Covid-19 policy are still strictly in place. The policies are created to ensure the health and safety of all our families but our educators are looked after too. Hand sanitiser is provided at all entry points of the service and rooms. Please remember that washing hands with soap is a routine practice to be commenced when dropping your child/ren off to their rooms with their educators. This year we have many exciting plans. We love to commit to community involvement and events. At the end of last year we participated in many charity events and what a great outcome it was. We collected over 75 Red bags for the Wesley Mission Charity as well as the amazing donation for the Kmart Toy Christmas appeal.



This newsletter provided will introduce you to our dedicated Educators from each room and their goals set in place. The newsletter is distributed to current families, waitlist families and is also published on the Little Ducks Website ([littleducks.com.au](http://littleducks.com.au)). It is a great way to communicate to our families and the community the wonderful things our children and families are doing at Little Ducks Bardon.

Thank you — Sam Vlajic

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## Upcoming Events

Tuesday the 26th January —  
Australia Day Holiday



Friday 5th February —  
Celebrating Waitangi Day

Friday 12th February—Chinese New  
Year



Monday 15th February—  
Valentine's Celebrations

# Policies in Review

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

- Transitioning children between environments
- Physical Environment Policy

Did you know that Policies can be located for parent view at any time in our front Foyer.

## 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](mailto:bardon@littleducks.com.au).

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

# Educator Spotlight ...

## Congratulations Tyler

Over the past few months Little Ducks has been recruiting for the position of a Traineeship. Over the past 12 months, we have found the recruitment of quality Early Childhood Educators quite challenging and therefore we made a decision to make a long term commitment to ensuring we are contributing to the high quality training and mentoring of people who are very new to the industry but are seeking a long term career in Early Childhood Education. Our Trainees are employed above ratio requirements as our aim is to focus on formal training and on the job coaching and mentoring. Please note that if required, these trainees may be used to back fill staff absences in the service.

The interest in this position was extremely high and we have undertaken a thorough recruitment process to ensure we have found our next amazing Educator.



# Development information

More than making choices. Fostering each **child's** sense of **agency** is more than providing them with choices. When **children** have a sense of **agency** they feel more in control of themselves and develop an understanding of their influence on the people and spaces around them.

Having a sense of agency in the early years is very much linked to each child's sense of belonging. A sense of belonging develops when a child has developed trust both in the adults around them and the environment. Developing a trusting bond with infants and children is driven by our image of the child. When we ask a child which book will we read, or offer choices about whether to go to the park or the shop, we are sending a positive message to the child of trust and fostering the child's sense of agency. The offering of choices and supporting each child's sense of agency sends a message to the child that they are strong, capable and curious with capacity to make choices for themselves.



EYLF Learning Outcome 1:  
Children Have A Strong  
Sense Of Identity

# Nursery Natter!

Welcome to our Nursery room for 2021, firstly, we would like to introduce ourselves.

My name is Miss Tammie and I like to consider myself a mature aged Lead educator who has a soft caring nature for my Nursery babies. I have been working in the child care industry for over 25 years and hold my Diploma of Early Childhood qualification. I have dedicated myself for the last 6 years here at Little Ducks and couldn't be more happier with the bonds I have built with the families during this time.

My name is Miss Caitlyn, I have been working hard recently as I'm studying my Diploma of Early Childhood and have the support of Miss Tammie as my mentor. I have been working in the Nursery here at Little Ducks for over 12 months now and loved every second of it. My dedication comes from the excitement I get being apart of the young children's lives as I get to be involved in experiences, their milestones and achievements as they grow.

The circle of security is what we aim to achieve in the first few weeks of the new year. We are here to support and provide the best quality of care for all the children as families head back into the work force and allow us to build a strong sense of identity with the babies.



Here in the nursery room it is important to us to provide open but simple communication. Each child is provided a communication book that documents your child's daily routine and outcomes including: meals, bottles and sleeping habits. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to use this book as a way to ask alternatively please come and speak to myself or Caitlyn .

We understand the babies development and routine changes regularly. Story park is a great way to discuss the changes and all about me routine is provided in your child's planning tab. Story park is another great portal we love to use to show case the beautiful moments of meaningful learning your child is participating in each week.

Thank you,  
Miss Tammie and  
Miss Caitlyn.



# Senior Nursery Natter!

Welcome Senior Nursery families to our first 2021 newsletter.

Many of our families are familiar with Senior Nursery educators and routine but for all the new families I would like to touch base and share with you information about Senior Nursery.

My name is Alex but I like to be referred to as Miss Ally. I have been the Lead Educator of the Senior Nursery room since July 2020. This year I will be undertaking maternity leave in late March as I am expecting my first little girl in early April (VERY EXCITED), to support me I have welcomed Miss Luckie to our beautiful room. Miss Luckie is also our Educational Leader and is studying her Bachelor of Early Education. Together we are a great team that will provide your child with agency and wellbeing support. The passion we bring to the room to allow your child to grow independently while having fun is important to both of us.

This month we will begin to ensure we are building the circle of security and then continue to build on the children's interest. So far it's been evident that sensory is one of the exciting experiences the children love to explore. What better way to continue this interest but through a range of different experiences such as: dance and music, art and craft, fine motor and even gross motor activities.

Just like the Nursery we carry over the individual Routine books for the Senior Nursery children. These books are important to document your child's daily routine while they are in our safe hands here at Little Ducks. Importantly we also ask that each day your child is provided a drink bottle with fresh water and labelled with their name. A sun safety hat that also is clearly labelled to assist us with identifying personal belongings.

Moving forward we would really like to introduce something that is very important to us, Healthy Eating Habits. Habits learnt at a young age can help children become healthy adults. By spending time with your child teaching them about the benefits of eating balanced, nutritious food, your child is more likely to continue a healthy attitude to food into adulthood. We will explore different types of foods and cooking experiences. We would love for families to share their healthy habit routines at home with us here too.



Miss Ally and Miss Luckie



# Toddler Tales!

Are you ready and excited as we are for 2021. Welcome one and all to the Toddler room. My name is Miss Chrish and this is Miss Osi.

We are both Diploma qualified Educators with a strong caring nature. Miss Chrish has dedicated the last 2 years here at Bardon working in the over 2years age group.

Miss Osi transferred in mid 2020 from Little Ducks New Farm to Bardon and has brought with her some amazing skills to share with all of us.

Our focus as we begin 2021 is ensuring we are providing child agency, this involves ensuring child's needs are met accordingly with: toileting needs, meal routines, comfort and learning . To ensure we are meeting these needs we will build bonds with the families and the children. Our Toddler Story Park plan provides an all about me, where we ask families to provide information regarding their families needs and focuses.

Our Toddlers and ourselves are a busy team, we understand that families like to be kept up to date with how their child's routine progresses throughout their time with us. You can find all this information on our daily documented chart which is allocated on the parent information wall. All meals and sleep information is recorded for each child individually on one document. All toileting details are documented on our bathroom chart located in the bathroom on the bench. Here we also display the individual child's bathrooms needs for training and sleep nappies. Story park is a great way to keep us informed of toileting needs and requirements for your child allowing us to understand where your child's progress has been made.



# Toddler Tales!

Story park portal is a way we share our program for families. Please remember to take the time to explore Story park and watch the program be put in place daily. Communication is an important life skill and there are so many different ways to communicate. Over the next few weeks we will be exploring these areas of communication through dance, music, song, visual, verbal and body language to build our understanding of communication and allow the children different ways to express themselves.

Our goals for the next twelve months include but are not limited too: looking at the importance of understanding the environment, sustainability, building empathy and enhance their confidence, social skills and sense of achievement. It is important that we scaffold these little ducklings to their full potential in individual ways.

Our outdoor environment is also a great place where we can provide obstacles and equipment to challenge the Toddlers gross motor skills. This links to our Move and Groove modules where we are supporting the skills to enhance the children's balance and co-ordination. Yoga is a skill any age can participate in and has many benefits not only physically but mentally. Each day we take the time to allow the children to participate in a form of yoga and/or meditation.



*Thank you Miss Chris and Miss Osi*





# Junior Kindy Jumble!

Welcome to all our new 2021 families here in the Junior Kindy room. My name's Miss Fiona and I'm the Lead Educator of the room. I'm a dedicated, creative and mindful Educator that is studying my Bachelor Of Early Childhood and have dedicated the last 20 years of my career in the childcare sector. My assistant Miss Francedit and I make an awesome team together. Francedit holds a Diploma qualification in Childcare and brings with it the knowledge of culture, healthy bodies and routines.



Together Francedit and I are dedicated to ensure our families are welcomed by building a secure bond with each of them individually. Our Story park plans are available for families to provide individual family details on the all about me plans. Story park is also an area where Francedit and I will share meaningful moments of your child's experiences here at Little Ducks, including but not limited too, special service events, including celebrations, incursions and assessment reports.

Our environments in our room are very important to us, an environment layout can really drive a program and a child's imagination. We are very lucky to have access to our very own private courtyard that gives opportunity to the children to engage in age appropriate experiences such as: gardening, sensory experiences, gross motor exploration, nature and science. These opportunities are not limited to just outdoors, our indoor environments are created on children's interest and their voices captured. Your ideas are important to us too, so please feel free to share these with us as a way to contribute to the program also.



# Junior Kindy Jumble!

Allowing children to feel secure is evident when children are demonstrating confidence in group experiences. Providing children with the opportunity to share stories in group settings and talk about their experiences they have had over the weekends with their families, builds their communication and self of identity. This is programmed daily for the children in the Junior Kindy room. Show and share is routine and programmed for each individual child.

Connectedness is a area we link to with our routines such as meal times. Learning to use utensils such as tongs for fruit and sandwiches to support the children's self help skills. The skill of responsibility and assisting in tasks to pack away belongings. Sun cream, hats and shoes are resources each child has daily and with these simple resources allows the children to learn how to be responsible for their personal belongings as well as challenging their self help skills.



Being active is a healthy habit, building areas outdoors for active play is something we like to give the children responsibility for also. Choosing what climbing equipment and activities they

want is evidently important. It allows us the opportunity to capture how far their gross motor skills progress with balance, coordination and agility. We look forward to sharing the next 12 months with you all!



Thank you

Miss Fiona and Miss Francidedid.



# Kindy Catch Up!

*What's been happening in Kindergarten?*

*It's already 2021 and firstly we wish all our students from 2020 a happy new year and we hope the new chapter into Prep is exciting for everyone.*

*Miss Vicki has been building positive relationships with children and families that have begun the transition from Junior Kindy to Kindergarten.*

*Miss Vicki believes it is important to listen to children's needs, wants and interests to learn about every child to support and challenge them to fulfil their goals ready for Prep.*

*To encourage agency and a sense of belonging, children are encouraged to participate in their own daily routines, this also builds their understanding for responsibilities and a sense of identity.*

*A child's voice is important and individual, Vicki captures these voices regularly and is documented to continue to build her Kindy program that then builds your children's life skills.*

*Identity is a learning outcome Miss Vicki incorporates every day. Your Kindy Children share their stories, holidays, ideas and feelings in small and large group opportunities. Our Kindergarten Funded extra Curriculum will start in February 2021, these include but are not limited too: Raw art, Petit Balletinas, Music Beat and Mindfulness and wellbeing program. Once all routines are confirmed Miss Vicki will keep you updated. Ginger sports is also a service provided to the families each Friday.*

*Gingers sports provides a huge range of opportunities for your child, not only does this program support gross motor agility it also assists in building confidence, patience, resilience, building friendships and encourages language.*



# Kindy Catch Up!

*Story park planning is a portal used to document the Kindy program. On your child's plan you have access to an ALL ABOUT ME where families document their child's individual information. With this information it is used to build opportunities to link to the program with wellbeing, connectedness, communicating and being an active learner. We are really looking forward to the official Kindy program starting on the first of February.*

*Recently its been all about the beach and the children's life experiences of holidaying on the waters edge. Our environments in the room layout allow the children to explore the beach in role playing, dress ups, story books and puppets as well as song.*



*Miss Vicki has a great networking relationship with the local schools within our Bardon Community, we have been lucky enough to have some of the schools donate school uniforms and photos to help support our school readiness learning. Throughout the year we will welcome various school coordinators, teachers and support members into the Kindy room to assist in building their connections and relationships with the children and schools.*

*In February 2021 we will hold a Kindy Information night, during this event the Principles and Prep coordinators will be invited to come in to answer questions and educate families on their schools philosophies. We will also touch base of the requirements of a Transition Statement. Transitions 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 2021 on a portal. Families will be advised later in the year when the process starts and permission letter will be required.*



*Happy Learning Miss Vicki and  
Mr Tyler*



# Our Community ...



## Ashgrove Library

87 Amarina Ave, Ashgrove QLD 4060

**There is a special area which is dedicated for Little Ducks Bardon. Take the time to head down and check out the spectacular displays your child has made.**



# Healthy Habits!

## How much water do children need?

The amount of water a child needs is influenced by the amount of activity they do, the weather temperature, and their diet and health. It's always important to remind children to drink, but as a general guide, children up to 8 years of age should have a minimum of 4-5 cups of water a day. Children above 8 years old require at least 6-8 cups of water a day.



Allergies – for the safety of the children attending who have anaphylaxis conditions e.g egg prominent products (eg boiled eggs, quiche, frittata, zucchini slice omelette) and nuts (including all nuts, nuttela and peanut paste) cannot be brought into the centre.

