Wow those two weeks absolutely flew and so much has happened in such a short time! Our part time teacher Daina has decided for personal reasons to move back down to Adelaide and we now welcome a new teacher, Rachel Wells as she joins our highly motivated and enthusiastic team!

Mr Budgie now has a Mrs Budgie and she is telling him off constantly...although I am quite sure he deserves it at times 😊 Actually thinking about the budgies and how they chatter and squawk actually reminds me of the children and how they interact with each other. I know I have often heard myself say when I have been outside that they are like a bunch of Magpies at times. When we listen to the birds, it is their constant twittering and chirruping which keeps them in contact with each other. They tell each other excitedly of juicy morsels of food they have found; alert each other of nearby danger and of course argue for that best spot on the tree. So no wonder I call the children my little magpies at times because they are so much alike.....not sitting on the tree though 😊. They love to sit and chat at lunchtimes and the conversations they have are amazing and so varied! The contents of lunchboxes are always a great icebreaker with the group they are sitting with. Comparison and benefits of certain foods are quickly assessed and eyes shine as they munch their way through, storing energy for later activities and refueling their minds. Chatting about things from home, things that have happened at kindy or things that are about to happen. The flow is endless and even those who aren't so chatty are tuned in to the conversations as their eyes gleam and smiles play around their mouths as they follow the animated discussions flowing around them. Just imagine what and how much they absorb from their families at the dinner table without the interruption of a television 😊

Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you.

~Robert Fulghum

Diary Dates . . .

Term Two

28th April – 4th July

© May 1st&2nd – Groups walking to Camelot gardens
© May 4th – Tickera
© May 11th – Mothers Day
© Governing Council meeting - 5.30pm
© May 21st&22nd – Adelaide Museum Excursion
© June 20th - Science Night!
Curriculum focus

We now have so much planned after listening and following the children’s interests and ideas that we don’t know if they will really fit into just a 10 week term but we will certainly try!

As you can see in date reminders, we are walking to Camelot Gardens (I wonder if there will be a knight or two or maybe even a princess or Dragon roaming about 😊) This is continuing on in our interest surrounding sustainability and adding on to the knowledge the children have gained in term one and through the excursions offered in term one. The vegetable garden is beginning to flourish and the Asian Greens are ready to be picked so I can see some lovely opportunities for the children to pick their own produce ready for a cooking experience!

The excursion to the Adelaide Museum is planned, and of course our amazing science night towards the end of term will help round out those curious minds.

We are taking a step back in time as we begin to focus on many of the children’s interest surrounding Dinosaur play last term. This will again work in well with our discussions surrounding plant life and how it sustains and maintains the health and life of many other things.

Maintain a healthy body as well as fuelling our minds will also be a focus. Miss Heidi our visiting dance teacher will be popping in on some Friday mornings over the term. This was a unique and amazing addition to our curriculum last year and we are so happy to be able to offer this again this term!

Our regular Kindergym visits in week 5 are a much anticipated event for the children to show just how clever those little bodies can be and challenge their friends at the same time.

We also hope to have our local vet visit to talk about different types of animals and how to look after them as well as keeping ourselves safe.

So you can see there is a lot planned and only ten weeks to achieve it. As always we love to have parent input into our programs and we have listened to many ideas (hence such a large program we are offering😊). So don’t be shy in offering suggestions, because it is your observations of the children as well which help make our curriculum we can offer so diverse and rich! Also don’t be afraid to ask to join in, the charts of the movements of your child’s group are dispersed on many doors and walls around the kindy building. Lots of parents have just done this for one or two quick experiences and have enjoyed it.

We will also be launching our trial of a short paragraph of information about your child’s interaction and/or progress throughout their group time experiences this term. The first will be coming out in week 4, however please, do not hesitate to make a time to chat with us or create an appointment if you have any concerns. All we ask is that you remember that we are teaching on the floor each day and it is easier for us to make sure there is quality time for us to engage with you at the end of a kindy day when families have gone home.
**Reminders**

- Hats are to be worn all year (except for in extreme weather conditions where safety is an issue)

- PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE remember to visit and support our local kindy shop (next to Kennetts hardware shop and opposite the park.) Good clean clothes are always a welcome donation 😊

- Fees need to be paid or an instalment plan (for this term's fees) to be in place in order for children to attend our upcoming excursions. Outstanding fees from previous terms should already have been paid if promises of regular payments through instalment plans were kept.

**Lunchboxes**

We have been requested at times by families, what they can put in the children’s lunchboxes. It is lots easier to say what is not advisable and not in keeping with our healthy eating policy. I have always put a little insert from OPAL (Obesity Prevention and Active Lifestyle, a local government initiative) with suggestions and recommendations for healthy eating to assist in maintaining the guidelines of our Healthy Eating Policy.

I have again included them below. There is a web address which you may also find useful. Later in the term when the dust has settled from the start of a new term 😊 I am hoping to produce a small booklet about handy healthy eating tips for kindy age children. It is not about dictating what you should or should not do with your child. It is however intended as a guide to assist and connect the learning from home and kindy environments.

**KIDS’ TEETH AND SNACKS**

We actively promote and encourage healthy eating and less food wrappers at our Preschool as part of the promotion OPAL incentive of our local Council.

**Try to:**
- Limit foods containing lots of sugar, eg. sweet drinks and biscuits to parties and occasional meal times (not at kindy though 😊)
- Avoid giving children sweet snacks between meals
- Give children snacks such as bread (all types), savoury spreads, plain cracker biscuits, cheese, vegie sticks, fruit, yoghurt and corn on the cob.
- And of course water is the best drink for thirsty and active little bodies!

For more healthy food ideas visit opal.sa.gov.au

Children who consume good food during the preschool day have a greater ability to concentrate better while at preschool and get the necessary requirements they need for adequate health and development:

- Provide a variety of different foods during the week so the child doesn’t get bored with the same foods
- Make sure the lunchbox food looks appealing, such as having a variety of colours and textures
- Ensure to include a drink (water is preferred) in the child’s favourite drink bottle
- Follow the Healthy Eating Guidelines making sure that children get their 2 fruit and 5 vegetables daily
- When it’s hot put an ice block in the lunchbox to help keep
Don’t forget this weekend

Tickera Community Open Shed Day

Sunday 4th May 2013  10am - 2pm

Want to be surrounded by beautiful colours and share in some wonderful vibrant conversations and enjoy a relaxing day?

Then come along to the Tickera Open Day!!

Bring your family and friends... the more the merrier

Browse through gorgeous gift ideas from Bussy Bees, be tempted by the divine candles from Kangawooh, Fresh eggs will be on sale from the girls of Breezy Brae, a lovely selection of lush healthy plants from the Kindy gardener Tim McGrath are just waiting to make a new home in your garden, every little girl will love to have gorgeous hair accessories by Craft by Button, gorgeous jewellery by Pink Apple, Desmond’s meat service will have small goods, Karen George will be joining us & painting lots of gorgeous faces, and loads more exciting stalls to browse and perhaps pick up something special ready for Mothers Day and of course the Kadina Preschool will be selling a delectable Devonshire Tea!

Look forward to seeing you at the Tickera Community Centre 😊
A bit of maze fun … great for practising fine motor skills! 😊

Help Dino find his baby brother