Diary Dates . . .

Term Two
28th April - 4th July

- June 13th Heidi 4 Dance
- June 20th Heidi 4 Dance
- June 20th - Science Night!
- June 23rd - Governing Council meeting - 5.30pm

In term 3
- July 31st - kindy photos
- August 1st - kindy photos

Winter is here!
The change of seasons often reminds me of the stages of development our children go through each and every year of their life. Images of winter are often depicted as lonely, sparse trees with nothing to protect them against the harsh elements. I guess this is what a lot of families feel when their child moves off to kindy or school or goes on that first bus trip without them. We (parents) always imagine that we will be there next to them, but the truth is, we can’t and we shouldn’t! If we want them to grow stronger and more resilient, we have to trust that they remember the rules that we have instilled in them since birth for keeping themselves safe. We also have to trust others with one of the most precious things we have in our lives. It’s hard, but we have to believe that our children are stronger, smarter and more adaptable than we give them credit for. Little saplings in winter time may appear fragile, but all through these months, the roots are getting stronger and growing deeper as they seek nourishment form their environment; actually much like the development of a child really. Children seemingly sit quiet often appearing to be alone and yet they are observing others and the environment around them. All the time they are storing ideas and forming their own opinions. Friendships evolve at the same rate but they also change as children’s preference for play and learning develops. This doesn’t mean that old friends are discarded, but instead friendship circles are increased. This is often a very hard concept for some children (and their families) to grasp as they don’t want to be left behind and alone. However, they will in turn make new friends, just at a different rate. After all if everyone remained friends with only their kindy or childcare buddy what a narrow outlook they would have! They wouldn’t be able to explore nor understand the vast cultural differences our community has to offer and never be challenged into thinking about things in a different light. Cont/……
Cont/….. Our excursions to Adelaide this year are testament to these thoughts. My heartstrings were pulled as I watched the faces of the families as they waved their little ones off on the bus. Trepidation, anxiety, hope and love streamed across them. The children were seemingly oblivious to this as they were so excited seated next to friends and ready for adventure. New friendships evolved over this one day, as partners changed when walking around and the bus trip home saw many more ‘new’ friends seated next to or nearby. Lots of amazing discussions were heard as we were able to ‘eavesdrop’ on play with puppets or thoughts about exhibits and sights. The listening and sharing of ideas was extreme and intent. Although the bus trip was not quiet it was certainly a huge learning opportunity and one they will draw on for many months to come.

Curriculum focus

Our regular numeracy groups on Wednesday morning this term have certainly been a sense of enjoyment and high engagement by both children and staff. The group that goes to the Kadina Memorial School library has been enthralled and engaged by the many exciting stories. Our focus on our lovely garden was certainly enhanced when we walked to Camelot gardens (which has an Open Day in October by the way 😊). The children were so absorbed by the game of croquet which they were able to participate in out there that they want us to put in a court here! What I really love though is the casual way they all say when we walk past the grounds near us; ‘we know how to play that croquet game now’…..and their quiet tones don’t put anyone off their shot at all 😊

Our excursion to the Adelaide Museum was certainly amazing!!!!!! So many wonderful things to see and do all at the same time! The children were enthralled and so many wonderful questions and ideas have come out of this experience. Our focus on Dinosaurs has seen some aspiring paleontologists as they feverishly dug for bones in the sandpit and then diligently recorded their finds. Many did not find any bones but there was certainly loads of fun and such wonderful discussions during the activity that it didn’t seem to matter at all because so many peals of laughter were heard as bottoms were up and heads were down in some very deep holes 😊

Bodies and healthy eating have been high on the topic of conversation with the children. We are not sure if this is because of our trip to the market in term one or the influence of our vegetable garden but the children are constantly talking about what they had for breakfast and comparing the types. Not that we are complaining though😊 it is certainly wonderful to see and hear such quality and informed discussions about the importance of healthy food for healthy bodies that we are going to focus on this for the rest of the term with the children in sync with one of the main areas of our Early Years Curriculum.

Sense of well being
Kindy Shop

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. We had a lovely phonecall recently from Bev the coordinator who was so excited when someone came in with a considerable monetary donation. Our amazing volunteers would love you to pop in and say hi and don't forget all funds raised by their hard work goes directly to our kindy to ensure we have an amazing and engaging learning environment😊

Reporting

The trial of a short paragraph of information about your child’s interaction and/or progress throughout their group time experiences this term, we have found was not very successful as there were only a handful of families who acknowledged them. Therefore as they take considerable time to compile and we have large numbers of children, we will revert to a checklist format every second and fourth term. We will also be having parent/teacher interviews early in third term and inviting all families to participate if they are able. We will however continue to engage in informal discussions with families on a regular basis. As always if any family would like to make a time to speak with a teacher please don't hesitate.

School transition

2 of our feeder schools have dropped invitations in communication pockets over the past weeks. Please don't miss this wonderful opportunity to visit these schools. It is a great chance for you to discover and ask many questions of the schooling sector. Transition is a very important process and having the opportunity to seek information and visit schools early is something I strongly encourage all families to do. After all your children are going to spend many years in them, so an informed choice rather than listening to opinions of others is ALWAYS the best option! 😊

Ethics and confidentiality

As some of you may have heard, Miss Heidi has been visiting our site over the past few Fridays. Who is Miss Heidi? A wonderful, bright, enthusiastic and engaging young dance teacher, funding by our site at no cost to families, who the children adore! Her structured, methodical, step by step instructions soon have all the children engaged in a dance routine as they move to the beat of some modern tunes. Whilst we always encourage parents to join in with some of our programmes, I need to reiterate that taking photos during experiences like these should be done with caution as some families have elected not to allow photos to be taken of their children and their child may inadvertently be captured in the shot with your child. Please always ask a staff member if you are intending to take any photos at any time. We endeavour to take lots of photos throughout the year to put on a CD so that no experience is missed😊
SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The School Dental Service is the major provider of dental services for babies, children and young people under 18 years in South Australia. Around 130,000 children attend every year.

The Commonwealth Child Dental Benefits Schedule for 2 – 17 year olds started in 2014.

**ALL children are very welcome to continue to access dental care at the School Dental Service.** Dental care is FREE for most children and the School Dental Service will bulk-bill Medicare.

Children who do not qualify for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule can also attend – a small fee will apply for each course of general dental care provided.

School Dental Clinics are located across Adelaide and regional SA. To locate your local School Dental Clinic, and for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, visit [www.sadental.sa.gov.au](http://www.sadental.sa.gov.au)

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
Science night is coming!!!!!

Come and join in some fun as you explore the various science experiments with your child on Friday 20th June. It will be a fun and relaxed atmosphere where you can chat with some staff or just enjoy the delight of your children as they show you various effects different demonstrations may produce. The night will run from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. There is no set time to come...just come and enjoy!!!!! You might even get to taste some Leprechaun fizz or some cranberry, raspberry and strawberry tea!

You will have the opportunity to make some really cool planes, check out some fast moving balloon vehicles, play with the digital microscope, get a to look at some of the skeletons of various animals/bugs, make a cool butterfly, discover how one colour is often made up of other colours by creating your very own experiment, discover the effects detergent has on milk fat, play with some mini subs, make a diver float and sink, hypothesise what floats and sinks.....and who knows what else...just come!!!!!! Your child will love the experience of you learning and wondering alongside them!!!!!
An important safety message

Trampoline safety—it’s flippin’ important

Hundreds of Australian children are taken to hospital every year for trampoline-related injuries such as cuts, sprains and fractures.

Don’t let your trampoline spring a nasty surprise. To make sure it’s safe, visit: www.productsafety.gov.au/trampolinesafety

Is your trampoline safe?

Follow these simple steps:

☐ One at a time
Make sure there is only one child on the trampoline.

☐ Supervise
Watch children at all times, and take extra care with younger children as they are more prone to serious injury.

☐ Safety padding
Always use safety padding on the frame.

☐ Check
Regularly check the:
- mat and net don’t have holes
- springs are intact and securely attached at both ends
- frame is not bent
- leg broces are locked.

☐ Hazard-free surrounds
Make sure:
- the area around the trampoline is free from hazards like fences or garden furniture
- there is an overhead clearance to avoid objects like trees and wires.

For the full trampoline safety checklist, visit: productsafety.gov.au/trampolinesafety