

Children's Centre News

'We promise our children that we will be strong advocates for play'
(From our Philosophy)

Bush Kindy!

What a wonderful start our children have had to their Bush Kindy journey, with each group currently having visited our Para Wirra site numerous times for their fortnightly sessions. In just a few sessions, the children have gained great confidence in moving around the bush setting and are beginning to show and use their independence in their inquiries and investigations which they set upon.

This year, we have trialled a new structure to the day where the children have started or ended their session with free choice around our base camp. In the middle of the day, we gather as a whole group to participate in some exploratory bush walking which has lately been upon the Lizard Rock Hike track.

On one of our bush walks, our capable, competent, inquisitive children took the lead on the track and made sure that they left no one behind by monitoring the group behind them. With their great noticing skills, we continually stopped along the track to observe many features of the bush including animal poo, spikey grass, seed pods, mushrooms, fallen trees, leaf shapes, leafless trees, and even rock shapes/formations (just to name a few) – We even got to cross a wooden bridge on our expedition! Our leaders of the group also took a great interest in finding the 'running man' signs (used for orienteering) along the way.

We are very proud of the persistence and determination of the children. Ashlea :)



1

LAST DAY TERM 2
Thursday 5th July

FIRST DAY TERM 3
Monday 23rd July

2

4 Y.O. HEALTH CHECKS
Our nurse will be here on
Wednesday 19th
September.

See Linda or Tasha to
Book

3

PRESCHOOL PHOTOS
Session 1 - 21st August
Session 2 - 22nd August

More information will be
sent home soon

'It is important that children remain active in the cooler months so that they continue to build emerging skills that are crucial to their physical development'

Outdoor Play

With the chilly winter weather setting in, it is timely to discuss the importance of outdoor play.

During the spring and summer, children become familiar with bright green foliage, flowers in bloom, and a warm climate. As the change in season, they notice changes in their environment, such as brown grass, fallen leaves, rain, hail and puddles. This provides opportunity for children to learn about seasons and life cycles of plants and animals.

The physical health benefits of outdoor play
Playing outdoors in winter promotes physical development and well-being. This is because outdoor play encourages the use of the whole body by offering a safe space to run, jump, and exercise key muscle groups. This increase in physical activity supports children's gross motor development and overall health.

The Most Common Winter Myth Dispelled

"My child will get sick if they play outdoors in the cold"

Most adults associate winter with getting colds and illnesses such as the flu. However, it is not exposure to the cold that cause these viruses. In fact, it's likely to be increased exposure to poorly ventilated indoor environments, where bacteria and viruses live.

By encouraging outdoor play in winter, children gain much needed exposure to fresh air and Vitamin D, while avoiding bacteria.



Real learning looks messy. It is the freedom to explore through your senses.



Real learning looks like taking risks and listening to our bodies tell us we feel safe.



Real learning looks like splashing in puddles to see how big you can make them splash.

Staff are unable to make children remain indoors while at Kindy/ Occasional Care - please keep your child home if they are too unwell to play outdoors

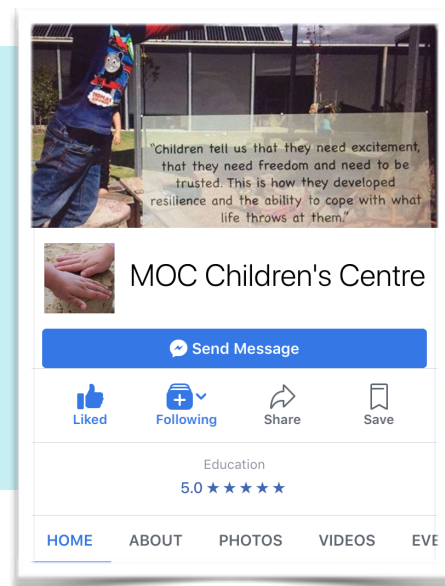
HOW TO STAY INFORMED

Life gets busy! To ensure you keep up to date with all that happens at our Centre please read notes carefully, check your pigeon hole each day, take the time to look at displays, talk with staff, like our Facebook page 'MOC Children's Centre' (and follow our page to ensure you don't miss posts) and read our programming book. If you prefer to communicate with staff via email, please do so!

ashlea.mccarthy@moc.sa.edu.au linda.rich@moc.sa.edu.au

jaimie.bevis@moc.sa.edu.au sarah.pix@moc.sa.edu.au

renee.tonani@moc.sa.edu.au



Your Child's Progress

Educators are always very busy documenting children's learning. They observe children over a period of time, and then collate this information into what we call a Learning Story. When your child's story is ready, their primary carer will invite you in for a meeting. Occasional Care children each have their own 'Learning Journey' folder, which will follow them to preschool if they attend our program. Educators will make jottings, and add short stories about your child's learning and development. They will also always talk with you about how your child is going. At the end of each child's preschool journey, you will receive a 'Statement of Learning', which will also be shared with your child's school.

"Educators are responsive to children's strengths abilities and interests. They value and build on children's strengths, skills and knowledge to ensure their motivation and engagement in learning"



JUNE
28

Playgroup in the Bush

**Para Wirra Conservation Park
Gawler View Picnic Area
Thursday, June 28th
9:30-11:00am**

Come and join us, as we share in the wonder of our natural world with our children. The social, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and physical development of our children flourishes in this beautiful outdoor environment. All welcome, 0-5 years.

Enquiries: Tracey Alexander, Community Development Coordinator - 82091600

We look forward to our first Bush Playgroup on Thursday **June 28th, 9:30-11am**. We look forward to offering this playgroup twice each term in the future.

Our Quality Improvement Plan

Our plan for this year is all about promoting high levels of involvement in our children.

'Involvement, also referred to as engagement, has been promoted by a number of researchers as a key indicator of curriculum quality and effectiveness' (Reflect, Respect, Relate).

You may have noticed when your child is highly involved. They do not easily let go of an activity, can't be easily distracted, spend a long period of time, have an intense look on their face (often with tongue poking out) and take pride in what they have achieved.

We have a Quality Improvement Plan display in the hallway, and full version of our plan can be found on our school website. Please do not hesitate to ask a staff member for further information!



Cadence shows high levels involvement as she concentrates and persists to achieve her goal of peeling a potato



2018 Quality Improvement Plan

At MOC Children's Centre Educators are Researchers.
This year we will carefully investigate the following question:

'How can we promote high levels of involvement which foster improved outcomes for all children?'

Here is how we will do it:



PRIORITY 1: 'Educators and leaders across Children's Centre and Foundation have a shared philosophy which fosters strong continuity of learning'

- We will strive to strengthen our partnership with our first year of school colleagues through regular shared opportunities for professional dialogue about children, pedagogy and continuity of learning

Connections with National Quality Standard 4 & 6

PRIORITY 4: Strong partnerships with our community promote ways of supporting health, wellbeing and education outcomes for young children, their families and our staff

- Work in partnership with children and families to develop, promote and participate in experiences which promote healthy activity and dietary choices.
- Volunteers will be provided with opportunities to build their skills and develop future pathways in-line with personal hopes and aspirations
- Families will have opportunities to be involved in the service and contribute to service decisions and be informed of how to do this
- Offer opportunities for professionals working in various sectors to access quality learning pertinent to the needs of the community

Connections with National Quality Standard 2, 4 & 6

PRIORITY 2: 'Our curriculum promotes high levels of involvement which cultivates enriched learning outcomes for all children'

- The Early Years Learning Framework, Respect Reflect Relate, Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators will be utilised by educators to a high standard through the cycle of planning
- We will continue to develop upon STEM learning in a holistic early childhood environment with a focus on further developing oral language, 'STEM' dispositions, critical thinking, creativity, and inquiry based approaches
- Increase staff capacity in responding to children with special rights and their families
- Establish consistent understandings and practices relating to cultural competence among staff

Connections with National Quality Standard 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7

PRIORITY 3: 'Every learner's growth is nurtured, monitored and responded to'

- Review our current practices with a focus on how effectively the Preschool Literacy and Numeracy Indicators, Respect, Reflect, Relate and the Early Years Learning Framework are utilised to monitor and respond to individuals
- Clear intervention pathways are identified and documented
- Staff confidently implement agreed practices and processes to ensure all individuals are monitored and responded to
- Provide coordinated, targeted and culturally appropriate earlier intervention to improve outcomes for families and children where risk factors exist

Connections with National Quality Standard 1, 3 & 6



Health and Hygiene

Each day children learn hygiene skills which help give protection from germs that can cause illness.

We have a special hand-washing song that the children sing each day to help remember this important routine.

Quality Area 2.1.3 – Effective hygiene practices are promoted and implemented

We wash the front,
We wash the back,
We wash them in-between,
That is how we keep our hands clean!

Have you heard this song at home yet? Our children sing this when washing their hands 😊

Has your child sung this song at home? Scan the code below to hear Delilah and Hania singing our special song!

