

Toddler's Room January 2012 Newsletter

Firstly a warm welcome to our new families and a warm welcome back to our old families. Hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and a great start to the New Year.

Staff in the room for this year will be:

Jenny Burge
Room Coordinator

Carrie Verschuur
In-charge Staff

Cherry Barnes
In-charge Staff

Deanna Carey
Assistant

Rosemary Lucas
Assistant

Kathy Esler
Assistant

Ulrica Honner
Incharge Staff

Sue Wright
Assistant

Pushpa Karunaratne
Assistant

Liz Wyatt
Assistant

Debbie Rowe
Assistant

Kyla Giuffre
Assistant

Cheryl Gladman
Assistant

In the Toddler's room we care for 33 children each day and provide a program that caters for all children's needs & interests; we base our program on Early Years Learning Frame Work and take observations on your child which are based on the five outcomes outlined by the framework covering overall holistic development of children. We would require your participation and support in children's development. Early Years Learning Frame Work provides an opportunity for the educators to work in partnership with parents and it also helps to achieve the best learning and developmental outcomes for children. The program is displayed in the room; we would love to hear about your child's interests and abilities which can be include in the program. We also welcome any suggestions or feedback you have about the program or the room in general. A feedback book is located at the sign in area.

We practice Primary Care giving which means your child will have one staff member that will primarily care for him/her and get to know you and your family.

"The primary care giving system ensures that every child has a special person and that each parent has a primary contact".

Each child has a primary caregiver, who develops a special relationship of mutual trust and respect with the child and their parents. The primary caregiver also works with other staff within the room to ensure a positive child care experience. Care giving is primary in two senses. First, much but not all of the care, nurturing and parent communication is provided by the teacher who is the primary caregiver. Second, teaching is primary because of the prime times (nappy changes, feeding, putting to sleep etc.) - and those most intimate and personal moments of care and teaching - are the major responsibility of the primary caregiver.

We are looking forward to a very exciting year with you; there are a few things we ask of you to get the year started well.....

PLEASE label **all** of your child's clothing as we have 80 families in the toddler room it can be difficult to keep track of items. A lost property basket is located underneath the sign in book.

If your child is toilet training please provide 3 to 4 changes of clothes for those little accidents and even if your child is not toilet training please bring in 1 or 2 sets of spare clothing to change into if they get wet from water play or messy activities.

Please remember that it is our policy that children wear **closed toe shoes** and **sleeves on clothing**, no **singlet tops** or **thin strap sun dresses** or **overalls**. In regards to Crocs (shoes), the children are permitted to wear them as long as they are able to keep them on their feet whilst at day care. Please keep in mind that many children do not like the sensation of sand in their shoes, therefore crocs are not always the best type of shoe for daycare.

Provide a hat for your child that can stay here at day care, it makes it easier for all. Hats need to be **bucket style** with a **wide brim** or **legionnaires**.

It is centre policy that toys are not to be brought into the centre. You can bring in a comforter for sleep times.

Please make sure that there are no items of food or drink or medications in your child's bag. We do provide all snacks and meals here at the centre. This will help us to provide a safe environment to those children who have life threatening allergies.

If your child is to have medication while at the centre you need to fill out an authorization form so that staff are authorized to administer it. The medication will then be stored in a locked cupboard and returned to you at the end of the day.

Due to health and hygiene regulations please bring in a separate comb / hair brush for your child as we are not permitted to share hair brush / comb.

If your child has been unwell (fever, diarrhoea or vomiting) during the night please keep them at home to minimize the spread of infection to other children and staff.

On arrival please ensure your child washes their hands and apply sunscreen before playing or before sitting down for morning tea and don't forget to put a tick against the child's name on the Sunscreen List provided in the toddler's bathroom

We will sunscreen your child through out the day, if your child is sensitive or is unable to use our cream please bring in a named sunscreen for your child

- **You must sign your child/ren in/out on the sign in book and sign for any days that your child is away**
- **Read all the information we give you! There will always be notices left beside the sign in book to alert you of any upcoming events or other information you need to know or might be interested in.**

Celebrating Birthdays: Over the past couple of years the toddler room has allowed parents to bring in a tub of ice-cream for their child to celebrate their birthday with their friends at day care. This often meant that the children were eating ice cream on a weekly basis and sometimes even more. As we are part of the **eat right start right program**, we want to eliminate the amount of ice cream your children are consuming at day care this year. Therefore we will be no longer celebrating birthdays with food of any kind. This also means no children are excluded due to allergies. We ask that rather than bringing in a tub of ice cream, you can bring one of the following items instead:

- Party hats
- Party whistles
- Balloons
- Bubbles
- Key rings etc

On a daily basis we have 33 children in the room, so we ask that you please bring enough for every child. This way we can have a large group time to sing happy birthday and hand out to each child what surprises you have bought in. If you have any issues or concerns please see Jenny.

If you have any question or queries within the toddlers room please do not hesitate to call, email or speak to me (Jenny) or staff upon either arrival or departure of your child or we can arrange a meeting at your convenience if you would like to discuss any issues or concerns as we are always looking at ways of improving our service to you. Please give your feedback and suggestions in regards to the toddler's room, staff or the program, the feedback book is available and placed on the sign in / out book shelf at the entrance of the toddler's room. We are all looking forward to working in partnership with you and sharing in your child's life to make it a positive learning experience for your child.

Toddler's Room Email address: toddlers@geelongchildrenscentre.com.au

Kind Regards

Jenny Burge
Room Coordinator and Toddler's Room staff