


Dear Parents,

Education and Training

Welcome to term 1, 2019. The following information includes some of the learning outcomes at the core of the teaching and learning program. These will be revisited over the course of the year.

Learning about		Skills involved / things children learn
1	Separating from Mum / Dad / Carer	Preschool is a safe place. Parents/carers will come back. Establishing and maintaining trusting relationships with educators.
2	Routines	Washing hands. Getting own snacks and lunches. Packing own bags. Toileting (alone). Following a daily visual plan. 
3	Expectations	Approaching new, safe situations with confidence. Practicing inclusive ways of coexistence. Showing an increasing capacity to understand, self-regulate and manage emotions in ways that reflect the feelings and needs of themselves and others. Recognise and communicate their bodily needs e.g. hunger and thirst.
4	Social skills	Greeting each other. Taking turns / waiting for a turn. Sharing. Helping each other pack away. Participating in large and small group experiences. Showing awareness of and respect for others' perspectives.
5	Listening, comprehending and following directions in a group and at an individual level.	Learning about a listening body. Listening effectively for a range of familiar purposes. Developing the ability to follow a sequence of directions. Responding to signals to listen to educators.
<b>Other areas developed</b>		
<b>Fine Motor</b>		Strength, prewriting and manipulative skills.
<b>Gross Motor</b>		Muscle tone and strength. Moving to music. Using feet and bodies skilfully. Spatial awareness.

Physical exercise is important to help strengthen and coordinate bodies. We will encourage the children to develop their physical abilities with the daily feature of the obstacle course. The tyres, walk boards and trestles are used to enhance the obstacle course through the fixed structures. The children will be learning to take their time, plan their route, judge distances and gain confidence in their developing abilities.

At Preschool, children learn through an integrated and interconnected play based curriculum (the Early Years Learning Framework) that widens interests and knowledge of the world around them. Building on from initial interests from the preschoolers, we will start the year focussing on the animals and plants at preschool and life cycles with the “Hatching Chickens Program”. We will be learning about the plants that the Ngunnawal people use/d and begin a science study on rocks. Water play will also be an educational feature of term 1 and we will invite parents to join us for a water play morning. Water play morning will be held on **7 March Possums, 13 March Echidnas**. A separate note with details will be sent home. Keep an eye out - we would love to have your company and help for the morning.

Learning occurs through engagement, interest and in context. We make use of spontaneous teachable moments as well as planned intentional teaching experiences to build upon and strengthen children’s **Numeracy** and **Literacy** understandings. “In the early years, **Literacy** includes a range of modes of communication including music, dance, storytelling, visual arts, media and drama, as well as talking, reading and writing.” (EYLF) “**Numeracy** broadly includes understandings about numbers, patterns, measurement, spatial awareness and data as well as mathematical thinking, reasoning and counting.” (EYLF)  
*(EYLF -Early Years Learning Framework)*

**Planned, Intentional Teaching Experiences**

<b>Literacy</b>	<p>Sing, chant rhymes, jingles, songs and fingerplays.</p> <p>Interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.</p> <p>Present simple spoken texts using basic text structure in logical sequence e.g. descriptions and recounts.</p> <p>Recall significant information from spoken, written and visual text.</p> <p>Follow one step at a time, short, simple instructions e.g. for playing a game, completing a classroom task.</p> <p>Continue to develop their understanding that writing and drawing are powerful means of communication and that experiences and ideas can be represented through them.</p>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<p>Continue to develop an understanding of 1 to 1 correspondence.</p> <p>Draw on everyday opportunities to use counting and ordering of whole numbers in authentic situations in order to expose children to the counting process and ordinal number.</p> <p>Using authentic situations to develop the language of numbers to do with counting, ordering and naming.</p> <p>Categorising and sorting objects.</p> <p>Involve the children in hands on activities (such as the making table) to further their developing understanding of the properties of shape, size and mass.</p>

Children develop a knowledgeable and confident self-identity through experiences offered at preschool. Relationships are the foundation for the construction of identity – ‘Who am I?’, ‘How do I belong?’ and ‘What is my influence?’ We believe that developing a child’s positive self-esteem is very important if a child is going to be a successful learner, a confident and creative individual and take a responsible role in society i.e. “I am special and appreciated – I can try and take risks – I can do and succeed.”

**Library** - will start in week 4. We would appreciate your help to support the children with the borrowing and returning of books.

Echidnas will borrow on Mondays (or day of their choosing)

Possums will borrow on Thursdays (or day of their choosing)

**Small Pillows for rest** – We are pleased that so many children have remembered to bring their special **SMALL** pillows for rest time. We will keep them at preschool for the term.

We are delighted to be teaching your children and look forward to an enjoyable term.

Lana, Jan and the Preschool team.