



## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Families

Thank you to all the families who attended our recent Annual General Meeting. Congratulations to Skye C who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in our door prize; an entertainment book and centre recipe book and Rachel B for taking home 2<sup>nd</sup> prize which was a recipe book.

We have welcomed some new faces to our Governing council for this financial year and I look forward to introducing you to them in this newsletter.

Our educators have been reflecting on our program and planning practices and we will be sending a family survey on this topic to you. We would love to hear your thoughts on the documentation you receive from the centre.

Our fundraising team continues to look into ways to fundraise as it helps us keep your fees down while still providing up to date resources and facilities for your child. We are hoping to hold a Christmas raffle to be drawn at the centre's Christmas Party (date to be advised). The toy catalogues are now available so please take them and look through. The catalogues are on the front counter and in your child's room.

We have welcomed new casual employees to our team, Simona as a relief cook and Olivia, Tamara and Lana as educators. Olivia, Tamara and Lana are all students from TAFE and University who recently completed their practicums in our centre.

We have been trialling office hours and I will be working Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 to 4:30. On Wednesday's I will be working 9:00 to 5:30. On Monday's Rachel will be available from 9:00 to 5:30 in the office. If you are unable to see either Rachel or myself during those times please let us know and we will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

Please note, the office will be unattended from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October due to Rachel and I attending the Early Childhood Australia conference. I will have access to my emails whilst we are absent from the centre.

To our Kindy room families, Mira will be taking 6 weeks annual leave from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. During this time Jane and Anthea will be covering Mira's shifts.

Our centre will be closed from close of business Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of December and re-open Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of January. Families will not be charged fees during this time.

Please feel free to call, email or make an appointment if you would like to provide feedback or ideas about our centre or if there are any issues or concerns that you may have. My email address is [sharon@modburvccc.org.au](mailto:sharon@modburvccc.org.au).

Sharon - Director

## REMINDERS

- **When paying your fees please place your child's name as the reference and your name as the payee**
- If you are having financial difficulties please see Sharon or Rachel to discuss further as this may result in a reduction of days if you have not made an arrangement to reduce your debt.
- For Kindy room families please ensure you remember to take your containers and clothes.
- **If your child will be absent from the centre we ask that you call the centre by 10am to advise us they won't be attending that day.**
- Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing to suit the weather. We also ask that you check your child's change of clothes in their bag as we have just entered into winter.
- If you have any unwanted clothing items at home we would love any donations for children's clothing so we have a supply of spare clothes or adults clothing for children to dress up in.

# GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016/2017



(from left to right) Back Row - Rachel, Chris - (Chairperson), Kate, Anna - (Treasurer)  
Front Row - Cassandra, Sinead, Sharon - (Director), Kim - (Secretary), Susan, Rachel (Staff Representative)

Hi All

At the recent AGM we welcomed a number of new members to the governing council and we also farewelled a member. I'd like to take this opportunity to Thank Christy for her commitment over the past year. I'd also like to Thank Kate and Amanda who have stepped down from the positions of treasurer and secretary for all their hard work and commitment over the past year.

The council is a voluntary group that represents all stakeholders of the centre. As a community organisation, we don't have shareholders and the governing council assumes responsibility for the governance and financial management of the centre. While they don't get paid, council members have an important role in keeping the doors open and making sure the centre is able to provide the great care and educational services that we all expect.

Thanks again for those leaving us and welcome aboard to the new faces, I hope you find the next twelve months rewarding.

Cheers

Chris, (Committee Chairperson)



Congratulations to Natasha on 20 years of service and to Rizza on 10 years of service.



## NEWS FROM OUR ROOMS

### BABY ROOM

The Baby room has been a fun and exciting place lately with the children being settled and involved in lots of experiences. We celebrated Book Week recently with many of the children bringing in a favourite book to share with the group. Reading books with children is a great way of introducing them to language and literature and can help with their speech development as they are exposed to the sounds of words.

We have made the most of some of the nice weather getting outside and enjoying the open space. The children are more involved in physical experiences with climbing equipment, bikes and ball play. We have also made the most of the sunshine by having our mealtimes outside under the veranda which the children have enjoyed.

We have added to our Cubby house a table and stools, a play kitchen and a ceramic tea set. There are also flowers in the flower pots. The children have enjoyed the new additions spending lots of time in the cubby house.

As we are heading into spring we will be re-planting our vegetable garden with a range of different vegetables. This is a great experience for the children to be involved with and a good opportunity to teach them about gardening and the importance of taking care of the environment around us.

Rachel will be having a couple of week's holiday in October.

Also just a reminder to please label your children's belongings this makes it easy for us to make sure they go home in the right bag.

Thank you

From All the Baby Room Educators

Gail, Jen, Victoria, Rachel and Natasha



## TODDLER ROOM

Hello from all the toddler room educators and children

We have been super busy as always in the Toddler Room. We have had some new children join us from both the baby room and from outside the centre so we welcome them along with their families.

We are enjoying and making the most of the wonderful weather we have been having by spending more of our time outdoors. We have been planting in our gardens and have also had some children sleep out under the verandah.

When the weather hasn't been so kind, we have been opening the doors up between our room and the kindy room allowing the children to move between the two. This is always thoroughly enjoyed by the children from both rooms and gives them access to resources that they don't often use.

Some of the highlights from the past couple of months have been...

\*The children making special gifts for their Dad's for Father's day. I hope they are enjoying their special gift just as much as the children enjoyed making them.

\*Celebrating the Olympic Games. The Toddlers were involved in a variety of creative experiences though I think their favourite experience was stepping up onto the podium to receive their Olympic medal.

\*Looking at and exploring different kinds of trains. We watched and listened to a variety of trains on our TV and made a train out of our chairs. Tickets were made, purchased and collected. Some children even attempted to draw a train.

In the Toddler Room we are continuing to work on developing the children's self-help skills and independence so children are encouraged to take their belongings off and on and placed into their locker. This includes sock, shoes, clothing, special toys and dummies. Sometimes items are placed into wrong lockers or don't quite make it there at all. While we can often distinguish what belongs to whom, we are not super-heroes, so ensuring your child's belongings are named will help us greatly to find the correct home for misplaced items.

We are always striving to improve our documentation of the children's learning both as an individual and as a group. You may notice a few changes with how our programme is displayed however portfolios will remain the same for the time being and your child's learning and interests will still be the core of our programme. If you have any questions please speak to any of the Educators who will be able to help you.

With the nicer weather upon us, just a reminder that water play will be offered on a more regular basis so an extra pair of clothes or two in their bag would be a great help.

Christmas is fast approaching and we look forward to all the fun it brings with it.



## KINDY ROOM

Dear Families,

Welcome to our September newsletter. We are delighted to welcome the warmer weather of spring, the blue sky, sunshine and blossoming trees; it is a great reason to be outdoors embracing and welcoming spring. Starting with our most recent news; we have recently implemented a social and emotional curriculum "YOU CAN DO IT" which is widely used in preschools. We believe that it will assist us and the children in developing a better understanding of feelings and positive social behaviours.

"Gabby Get Along" is our first puppet character that has been introduced to the children. Gabby helped children understand what it means to get along with others and helped them question how they could resolve conflicts positively.

Some of the events that we have celebrated over the previous months were: NAIDOC week, Pyjama day, The Olympics, Books week and Father's Day.

Celebrating NAIDOC week was a wonderful opportunity to embrace Indigenous cultures and we took the event as an opportunity to learn more about the Aboriginal and Torres strait islanders people art, music, food and most importantly their connection to the land.

During book week, children investigated the book writing skills and attempted to create their own story book. It was wonderful to be able to listen to their stories and record it for them to be able to revisit their learning. Children's interests are always at the heart of our planning, and form the foundation of our room daily activities. Children have indicated to the educators what they wanted to explore and learn more about, such as animals, space, creative art, and writing.

The outdoor space has been set up to challenge the children's thinking and provide opportunities for group project by adding lots of natural and open ended resources. The children are showing an increasing interest in construction play, using a range of different resources. We believe this assists children in developing a range of skills: imagination and creativity, communication skills, mathematical concepts and working collaboratively.

Educators have attended training by Semann and Slattery at the centre on programming, documentation and project work. Therefore, our program and documentation will be reviewed and introduced in a new way.

*Jo's group has been exploring a variety of literacy, numeracy and science activities, including; floating and sinking, cooking, phonics, rhyme, exploring texts, patterns, measurement, time, syllables, mixing oil with water and colours. As always my aim is to develop children's learning dispositions and learning skills including; confidence, listening, resilience, following instructions, enquiring, fine motor writing, helping and sharing.*

*Please see Jo if you have any queries regarding our over four years old group.*

Friendly reminders:

Please remember to collect your child's belongings before leaving such as fruit containers and jackets.

Please assist your child returning their hat to their pocket if still outside.

Kind regards

Kindy room Educators



## Late Collection Fee

Please remember to be on the premises 5-10 minutes prior to 6:00 pm to collect your child. After 6:00 pm the centre is not covered by our Insurer. Families who arrive after 6:00 pm will be asked to sign a Late Collection of Child Form and a charge of \$5.00 per minute will apply.

## Important Dates

School Photos - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Christmas Party - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November (Date to be confirmed)

Christmas Closure - Centre will be closed as of close of business Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of December and re-open on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of January - No fees will be charged to families during this time.

## Sustainability Tip of the month

Did you know that you can recycle any clean plastic bags that dry food come in for example: bags that bread come in you can save these and place them into the recycling plastic containers in Coles or Woolworths.

## Staff Update

Gemma will be on Annual Leave from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Sharon will be taking Annual Leave from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Rachel will be taking Annual Leave on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November

Mira will be taking Annual leave from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

## Casual Vacancies

During the course of the year, we occasionally have casual days available. Should you be interested in a casual day this information will now be available on our website.

At the home page move your cursor to "Our centre" and open availability. This will have what days are available for the following week. If you are interested in a casual day please feel free to email Rachel or myself or to call us to confirm you would like the day.

## Your Child's Portfolio

Each child in our service has a portfolio which documents their journey over their time with us. We encourage and welcome families to look at their child's portfolios or to take them home and add their own stories. Our educators program once a month adding either an observation, learning story or pictures of child's time with us. If you wish to take your child's portfolio please see your child's primary caregiver.

## Book Drive

Do you have any children's books//stories at home that your child is no longer interested in. We are having a book drive and would welcome any donations on children's books//stories that we could use with the children in their rooms. Please drop the books to Sharon.



Modbury Community Children's Centre  
118A Smart Road  
Modbury SA 5092  
Ph: 08 8265 0862 Fax: 08 8395 6025  
Email: sharon@modburycce.org.au

