



grenfell preschool & long day care centre

newsletter

9th February 2009

New Enrolments

The Centre is abuzz with lots of new enrolments. It has been a delight to see all the children arriving. This certainly indicates that the Centre is fulfilling a need in our community.

Helping Your Child Settle In

Coming to a child care centre for the first time can be a big step for children and parents. Children all react differently to changes. Some children and parents are uncomfortable with change and can find this initial settling in period difficult to manage. The settling in process needs to be individualised for each family. It is important for us to know how you and your child are feeling during this time. We want to be a support during this time of transition. Please talk to us so we can help you by addressing any concerns and issues.

Welcome Home

It was a wonderful surprise to see Ross, Zovi, Peter and Annie Armstrong back home from their trip to India. Zovi was born in India and is one of the Centre's popular casual staff members. She arrived bearing gifts for the Centre; the most beautiful wall hanger, runners and a scarf can be seen hanging in the centre. Please take time to look at them and see the detailed work put into making them.

Accreditation

At the end of February we are to submit our self study report to the National Childcare Accreditation Council (NCAC). We will then wait for a valuator to be appointed to assess our Centre. Closer to this date parents will be required to complete a survey which is submitted to the NCAC. The accreditation process is a Federal requirement and for parents to receive CCB the centre must be accredited.

For further information, the National Childcare Accreditation Council (NCAC) can be contacted on 1800 655 545.

Family Service Plan

Over the next few weeks we are asking you to look at your family service plan and perhaps either discuss them with your room teacher or just fill them out and leave with a staff member.

Forms are available from the staff in each room. Filling them out will help to provide an even better standard of reaching goals for your children in our Centre.

Fees

Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre is a non-profit organisation. We endeavour to maintain a fee structure which is affordable and sustainable. Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre delivers a high quality educational service which is subsidised by the Federal and State Government, however to meet the Centre's financial commitments and keep our wonderful resources for the children up to date, we remind everyone that accounts should be paid within 14 days. Children's positions will be cancelled if the Centre's policy is not being met.

Devising and Reviewing Policies

- Staff are consulted in the initial stages.
- A notice is placed in the Newsletter asking for feedback and/or suggestions from families.
- The policy is researched and a draft is prepared.
- The draft policy is taken back to staff and any amendments are made.
- The amended policy is taken to the Committee and adopted after any further changes are made.
- Details of the new or revised policy are placed in the Newsletter and discussed at the next General Meeting.
- Copies of all policies are placed in two Policy Manuals; one which is kept in the front foyer for all families to have easy access to and another in the Rainbow Room. The Policy Index at the front of each manual states when the policy was last reviewed and when it is next due to be renewed. All policies are reviewed on an annual basis.

We encourage all families to have a look through the Policy Manual and welcome any questions or comments you might have.

Policies Due for Review

- Inclusion Policy
- Clothing Policy
- Programme Policy
- Philosophy
- Policy Procedure
- Behaviour management
- Health and safety
- Staffing
- Administration

We encourage all parents to view these policies and suggest any changes.

Library

Children are able to borrow books from our library. If you bring your child to the Centre please select a book with your child and complete your child's library card. Please write down the title of the borrowed book on the supplied library cards and tick it off when returned. For children travelling on buses, staff will assist children with borrowing a book. Please pack a library bag (not plastic) and children can select their library book on arrival. Reading to your child is an essential part of helping your child to learn to read.

Food

Our Centre is a nut free zone. Please do not pack peanut butter sandwiches, peanut butter dip and biscuits, hazelnut sandwiches and whole nuts. Foods banned at the Centre are: roll-ups, nuts, chewing gum and lollies. All lunches are stored in the fridge. To help us fit all lunches in the fridge we recommend a rectangle lunch box with a flat lid. On arrival please assist your child to unpack their bag

Drink Bottles

Labelled drink bottles are to be placed in the basket provided in the Rainbow Room and in the refrigerator in the Garden and Star Room. The Centre provides milk and water if you do not want to send a drink bottle. **Please do not send red or green cordial.**

Parent Involvement

It is important to establish a good relationship with all parents at our service. Only through effective communication can the best interest of the child and the family be achieved.

Visitors

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations require the Centre to get all visitors to sign in and out of the Centre. A visitor is any person, other than parents picking up and dropping off their children, who will be staying at the Centre longer than 10 minutes. The visitor's book is located in the foyer.

Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Child Care

JET Child Care fee assistance helps with the cost of approved child care for eligible parents undertaking activities such as work, job search, training, study or rehabilitation as part of an activity agreement, to help them enter or re-enter the workforce.

JET Child Care fee assistance can help meet the cost of child care by paying some of the 'gap fee'. The 'gap fee' is the difference between the amounts you are charged and the amount you get for Child Care Benefit (CCB).

You will need to pay 10c per hour per child to your service. The Government will pay your CCB and any gap fee. If you use more hours than you are entitled to (24 or 50) you will have to pay the full cost for these additional hours.

JET Child Care fee assistance is paid just like your CCB. It is paid directly to your approved child care service, so that the fees you pay are reduced.

Reminder

Please remember to label all of your children's belongings.

Contact Us



35 Forbes Street
(PO Box 35)
Grenfell NSW 2810



02 6343 1743



02 6343 1304



mail@grenfellpreschool.com.au