



grenfell preschool & long day care centre

newsletter

23rd February 2009

The Grenfell Record

I hope you all brought the Grenfell Record on Wednesday 18th February as the Grenfell Preschool featured in it. There was a great photo of the children at the end of year celebration at the Bowling Club.

Peter from the Grenfell Record also office rang to ask me to come down and look at the photos from that night. I have a copy of them which I have on display on a digital photo frame in the foyer. Please find some time to have a look at them.

Policies Under Review

The following policies are currently being reviewed by the management committee:

- Inclusion
- Philosophy
- Programming
- Behaviour Management
- Health and Safety
- Staffing
- Grievances

We value all parent contributions to our Centre, so please feel free to have a look at these policies next time you are in the Centre and make any suggestions you might have to help improve our Centre.

The following policies have recently been reviewed by the management committee:

- Administration
- Policy Procedure
- Clothing

The revised Clothing Policy was accepted by the management committee at the last meeting and is available for all the read. A copy has been placed on the noticeboard in the foyer and also in the Policy Manuals kept in the foyer and Rainbow Room.

Information for Families

In order to ensure the safety of all children playing outdoors it is recommended that children wear lace up or buckled shoes with a textured sole to prevent slipping. Slip on type shoes or thongs are not recommended as they do not provide adequate support or protection for outdoor activities.

Children will be provided with the opportunity to play without shoes as well.

Due to reported fatalities in an article from Playground News Issue17 (Kidsafe Playground Advisory Unit), staff and families need to work together to ensure all clothing the children wear do not include:

- neck cords, toggles, scarves and ties;
- hoods;
- bib 'n' brace overall; or
- any other clothing that may catch on equipment and could result in possible strangulation or other injuries.

All clothing and footwear should be clearly marked with each child's name.

Parents should include a change of clothes (taking into account the weather conditions) so that these are available for such incidents as toileting accidents and clothes becoming soiled or wet through play experiences (aprons and suitable supervision strategies are used to minimise these occurrences).

Parents should regularly check the lost property containers for unclaimed clothes and shoes. All clothing and shoes left at the centre will be placed in the lost property containers located in each room.

Towards the end of term a notice will be posted reminding parents to check the lost property containers in each room. At the end of each term all unclaimed articles will either become part of the spare clothing supply or taken to a local charitable organisation for recycling.

Information Morning

Better Hearing Australia (NSW) and the Grenfell Community Health Centre are holding an information morning on 'Managing your Hearing Loss' at the Grenfell Bowling Club on Friday 6th March 2009 from 9.30am to 1.00pm.

- Do you have trouble hearing clearly?
- Is communicating with people becoming difficult?
- Do you have problems hearing the TV and radio?

Better Hearing Australia has the answer.

There will be information about:

- services available from Community Health
- how the ear works and how hearing aids help
- hearing loss management
- short courses, assistive listening devices

If you are aware of someone that might benefit in attending please tell them about it. If you believe your child would benefit by having their ears checked please come along to listen.

Staffing

Laraine Bland will be going on Maternity Leave in March and Lisa Jones will be replacing her in the Star Room. Sarah Loader will also be going on Maternity Leave in March and Lyn Hewen will be replacing her in the Rainbow Room. Tracey Mackellar was away on Wednesday and Laraine Bland replaced her at Quandialla.

We often have special people come into our centre on different occasions. On Wednesdays we have Joy Ann Cox, an educator from the Young and District Early Intervention Centre. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays we have itinerant support teachers who work with the hearing impaired, Jill Allan and Kathy Cooper come to support the staff and children.

We value these people and the children enjoy having them too.

Janine Eyles and Dean Cawthorne recently attended a workshop on hearing in Bathurst and found it very helpful and informative.

Throughout the year all staff members attend workshops to gain more knowledge to help them with the children.

Dean has submitted 3 of the assessments from his course to attain a Diploma in Child Studies and is awaiting the results. Sarah has also sent some of hers away and has gotten one back so far with a very pleasing result. They are both doing very well with their courses and passing on the new knowledge to other staff members.

Accreditation

I would like to thank Donna Reeves who helped contribute to the Self Study for our Accreditation. The Self Study Report is due this week and will be posted on Wednesday.

Programme Policy

You may have noticed the format for the 'Story of the Day' has changed. Please ask a staff member if you would like to know more about it. We have been working on it for some time to improve the way we program. The staff will meet again on Tuesday night to finalise the programming policy and 'Story of the Day' format ready for the committee to approve.

Family Function

Each term the committee and staff like to have a family function. We have new families at our centre and what better way for them to get to know everyone than to have a sausage sizzle.

sausage sizzle



Come to the park for a get together.
Meet new friends and enjoy some sausages.

When: 28th March 2009

Where: Rotary Park

Time: 4pm

RSVP: Friday 20th March 2009

we hope to see you all there

External Audit

The Centre has arranged for an External Audit to be done on our food handling and hygiene procedures. It will be done on the 9 March 2009.

Agenda for the next General Meeting

The next General Meeting is to be held on Monday 9th March 2009 at 7pm. So far items on the agenda for that meeting include:

- revamping the Rainbow Room playground
- our 5 year Plan
- Information Night for 2010 Kindergarten enrolments
- removal of being able to give notice for absences
- Quandialla

These may affect some families so come along and have your say.

Dates of upcoming meetings are listed below:

- Monday 11th May 2009
- Monday 6th July 2009
- Monday 21st September 2009 (AGM)
- Monday 9th November 2009
- Monday 8th February 2010
- Monday 10th May 2010

Please note these dates on your calendar so that you don't miss out on having your say.

Sick Children and Infectious Diseases

The Centre is unable to provide care for sick children. If a child becomes sick at the Centre, staff will consult with the Director and then the parents will be contacted. If the parents cannot be contacted the staff members will then contact the listed emergency contacts on the enrolment form. Staff will document all incidents of sickness in the sick book, providing information about signs and symptoms and action taken.

Parents will need to find alternative care for their children when they are sick.

The Centre retains the right to exclude any child who is regarded by the Director to be a health risk to other children, or any child who is obviously unwell and distressed.

If a child has commenced medication they must be kept at home for at least 24 hours to allow the medication to take effect.

Fees must still be paid if your child is absent due to illness.

Infectious diseases requiring exclusion from the Centre include:

Condition	Exclusion of Cases
Conjunctivitis	Until all discharge from eyes has ceased.
Vomiting	Return after 24 hours from last vomit.
Diarrhoea	Until diarrhoea has stopped.
Febrile Convulsions	A stable temperature for 24 hours accompanied by a doctor's certificate.
Chicken Pox	5 days after appearance of first spot and spots scabbed over.
Measles	Exclude for 4 days from the appearance of the rash.
Mumps	For 9 days after the swelling first appears.
Diphtheria	Until the doctor gives a certificate.
Whooping Cough	Exclude for 5 days of a 14 day course of antibiotics.
Impetigo (School Sores)	Exclude unless sores are covered with a waterproof dressing and antibiotics have been started.
Ringworm	Exclude until the day after treatment is started.
Head Lice	Exclude until hair has been treated with anti lice shampoo or lotion and head is free from lice. Dead eggs will probably be still attached.

2010 Kindergarten Information Night

The centre will be organising a special information night for families with children starting Kindergarten in 2010. The principals from both the Grenfell Public School and St Joseph's Catholic School will be in attendance and presenting a talk. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

The committee will be discussing the date for the information night at their special committee meeting tonight. I hope that anyone who has children attending school in 2010 will be there. It is very important to listen to each of the presentations to help you decide which school will fulfil your child's needs.

As parents it is your responsibility to make the right choice for your child, so come along and have your questions ready. I am sure both principals will be only too pleased to answer them.

New Sign

When dropping off and picking up children from the Star and Garden Rooms, you will notice a new sign letting you know where the children are - whether it be outside playing or upstairs in the Rainbow Room. This should save parents from having to go looking for the children.

Contact Us



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