



# grenfell preschool & long day care centre

newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> March 2010

## Loss of Funding

The Centre received word this week that due to our increasing utilisation, our eligibility for Long Day Care Sustainability Assistance has been reassessed and our service has been found to be no longer eligible to receive the sustainability funding. In other words, due to our increasing numbers in October-December 2009 we will not be given any extra support from the Federal Government to help operate our centre. The news was very disappointing knowing that with the staff ratio changes we are implementing we will need extra staff plus we have been able to keep our fees down to make it affordable for everyone.

## Important Information Night

There will be an information night held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Come along and hear from your child's room teacher about what they are doing. Listen to the treasurer speak on fees and the changes that are going to be made regarding Notice Given. It is important that you be there to understand the reasons the changes have to be made.

**If you are having trouble with a babysitter please bring your children along and we will arrange a sitter for them while you are at the meeting. Please let us know so arrangements can be made.**

## New rules for children travelling in cars

From March 1<sup>st</sup>, children up to the age of seven must travel in approved child car seats or wear restraints. These new laws have been passed to address the high rate of injuries from children travelling in cars. Research shows that younger children using adult seat belts greatly increase their risk of injury

The RTA has produced an information brochure to assist in choosing suitable child restraints and seats. The free Safer Child Restraints Guide is available from The Motor Registries office

Ph: 1800 060 607 or visit the website:

[www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/children/child\\_restraints/](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/children/child_restraints/).



## Bus Travel

Loader's Bus Company provides

a connecting bus service from the Grenfell Pre School and Long day Care Centre to the Grenfell Public School, where children from the centre are able to access their home bus. For children to be covered by Loader's Bus Company's Insurance they need to pay \$1.00 to utilise rural buses.

## Email

If you would like the story of the Day emailed to you, please provide an email address to your child's teacher.

## Little Yard

The work on the little yard will start on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March. While the work is being done the children in The Rainbow Room will not be able to use the yard. We will be arranging for those children to have use of the front yard as well as the big yard. It will be for approx 6 weeks; however, it will be wonderful for them when completed.

## Staff

Emily will be away on leave Friday 5<sup>th</sup> and Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Dean on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Fun Day in the Park

Do not forget the great Family Expo at Taylor Park on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 4pm. There will be a free sausage sizzle, jumping castle, face painting & lots, lots more for everyone to enjoy. Please indicate you are coming by placing your name on the paper provided at the sign on/off book to help us cater.

## Does your Child need help with Speech ?

### The ages and stages of children's speech

Learning to communicate is a step by step process for all children. A newborn communicates by crying, a six month old experiments with sounds, an eleven month old utters her first word, a three year old can string a four word sentence together, and by age five, most children can be understood by anyone. Many parents wonder if their children's speech and language is developing normally. Most children's speech becomes clearer gradually, as they hear and use sounds, words and

sentences. Be aware, too, that ear infections are common in children and they can interfere with sound development. While children develop individually, there is a general pattern to children's sound development.

#### Between birth and three years, children will attempt:

- lip sounds - p, b, m, w
- tongue tip sounds - t, d, n.
- back of the mouth sounds - k, g
- other sounds - h, y

Most children will say these sounds clearly by the time they are three. Sucking, learning to bite and chew, as well as putting objects in their mouths are all important. These behaviours help children become aware of their mouth parts and to control and to change mouth positions.

#### By four and a half years, children will also attempt:

- tongue tip sounds - s, z
- middle of the mouth sounds - sh, ch
- other sounds - l, j, f

Most children can be understood most of the time by this age. Their speech may become less clear if they are tired, unwell or excited. Songs, rhymes, play, books, talking and listening to other children all help them to sort out word and sound patterns.

#### By eight and a half years, children can say:

- all of the sounds clearly
- the last sounds to develop are - v, th, r

Some children take extra time to blend sounds together, for example, tree, plane and desk .

#### Learning to use sounds

Children may make mistakes when they begin to talk. They may:

- say an easier sound for a difficult one, such as tar for car, wing for ring
  - leave out sounds, such as boa for boat
  - leave out parts of words, such as te'phone for telephone
  - mix up the order of sounds, such as psghetti for spaghetti
  - say one sound instead of two or more, such as pane for plane, bider for spider
- Sometimes children make several mistakes in one sentence. For example, "let's go to the park" may sound like "wes do t u part."

#### Helping children to learn sounds

- Enjoy sounds - as your child learns new sounds, imitate them.
- When you don't understand a word or a sentence, gently say so ... and then try and

work it out together. When necessary, ask your child to show you the object they are talking about.

- Check that you have a message right.
- Expect some mistakes. Learning to talk takes years.
- Listen to what children say, rather than every sound.
- Speak clearly and simply. Talk together often.

#### When to seek help

If you are worried, about your child's speech, if your child sounds different to the ages and stages outlined, or if your three year old cannot be understood by adults, you may need to seek help from a speech pathologist. A speech pathologist has been professionally trained to advise, diagnose and work with adults and children who have difficulty in communicating. Speech pathologists work in a variety of settings including schools, health centres, hospitals and private practice.



#### Committee Corner

**Next committee meeting - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**Information Night: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 7pm**

**If anyone is available, the Preschool is having a working bee. We need to erect safety fencing around the rainbow room playground to barricade the area that is being upgraded. Any help would be great from about 5.30pm.**

**Please remember the information night on 15 March. Not only to hear from room leaders but also to gain information on future issues for the centre. Looking forward to seeing you all there.**



#### Dates to remember

FunDay in the Park

Where- Taylor Park

27<sup>th</sup> March 2010 4pm-7pm

Community Health Centre – Immunisation Clinic

Third Wednesday of the month

Information Night

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 7pm

#### Contact Us



35 Forbes Street  
(PO Box 35)  
Grenfell NSW 2810



02 6343 1743



02 6343 1304