



Grenfell Preschool
+ LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

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Welcome Families and Educators

September Monthly Newsletter

Service Report -

From The Director's Desk

Dear Parents & Families,

Firstly, I would like to personally thank you all for all your welcoming messages, emails, and conversations that I have had with you over the last week of my time here at our wonderful service. It has made my transition back into work and Grenfell life very smooth and it is really testament to our beautiful community around us.

As I am sure you are all aware that our current lockdown period for Regional NSW as been extended to at least 11:59pm on the 10th of September 2021. As per NSW Government advice, our service is declared to be an essential service for our community and is allowed to

have their doors open for business.

It is still the current advice that for parents and families are encouraged to keep their children at home unless they require our services of education and care. If you do require our services, please know that our doors are open, and we would love to support you through this difficult time. Please be aware that no children will be refused access to our service. We are definitely missing everyone that is be cared for at home and we cannot wait for everybody to be back soon!

As per our COVID management and safety plan, we are under strict advice from the NSW Government of our policies and procedures. As it remains, our drop off and pick up procedures remain the same, scan the Service NSW QR Code, and ring the doorbell and one of our amazing educators will assist you with your child to enter and exit the service. **Please also ensure that you are wearing a face mask when your are dropping off and collecting your child/ren.**

In association with our COVID management and safety plan, if your child displays any of the symptoms of COVID (runny nose, fever, cough, sore throat, etc), an educator will contact parents to come and collect your child to maintain our safety for both children and educators at the service. We understand that many illnesses have these symptoms, but for us as a service, we need to be compliant with our COVID safety and management plan. Please also be aware any fever, children need to be excluded for the following 24 hours from the service and for diarrhoea, the children are to be excluded for 48 hours.

If you would like any more information around these discussed topics, please view the below websites:

[1. NSW Government: COVID Symptoms & Testing](#)

[2\) NSW Government: Advice for Services & Providers](#)

3) NSW Health: Early Childhood Diseases & Exclusions Periods

On a brighter note, I cannot wait to work with you all to build and provide the highest quality education and care!

If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself on director@grenfellpreschool.com.au or on (02) 6343 1743.

Yours Sincerely,
Wezley Makin
Director – Grenfell Preschool & Long Day Care Centre.

Rainbow Room

The Rainbow Room educators want to say we miss you families! We hope everyone is safe and doing well.

The Rainbow Room children have been interested in colours, each fortnight we have been exploring a different colour, so far we have done red and blue, next fortnight we are exploring the colour green.

We would love to see what green items you have at home, or artworks you can make- email photos in so we can add it to our green area





- As the weather is warming up please don't forget to pack a wide brim hat and suitable clothing, to help protect your little ones from the sun
 - ; covers the shoulders, back and stomach
 - is loose fitting such as loose-fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered neckline, or longer style skirts, shorts and trousers.
 - ; hats that protect a person's face, neck, and ears, which include:
 - a legionnaire hat – the flap should cover the neck
 - a bucket hat with a deep crown and brim size of at least 5cm for children and must shade the face, neck, and ears
 - a broad brimmed hat with a brim size of at least 6cm for children. The brim should provide shade for the whole face
 - Please ensure there is spare clothes in your child's/ children's bag – we have limited spare clothing here.
 - Please ensure you pack enough nappies, we suggest roughly 5 nappies a day – we have limited sizing and spare nappies available.
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Sunshine Room

Hello Families and all our Sunshine Friends

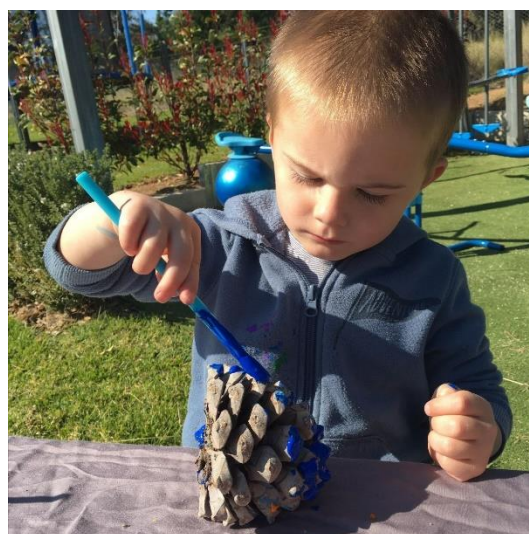
What another month zooming past so quickly that it's now spring and the weather is warming up and making our days much brighter with warm sunny days. We are just eagerly waiting for the restrictions to be lifted and then we can continue on our learning journeys together.



Thank you for all the families who shared all their Superhero Males pictures. Once we are back to unlock down times, we will continue on with our conversations around these amazing male figures in our lives. We hope the children were able to utilise the craft packs and were able to create Dad a

great surprise. We love our display in the room and it has sparked many different conversations, which has been fantastic for our language development and social skill.

Plenty of birthdays this month and excitement around turning 3!!! Just a reminder that once your child turns 3, they can catch the bus to and from the centre, this just has to be organised with the bus company which services your area and a bus note filled out here with the correct bus details. Also, the children can be put onto preschool hours which are 8am-3.30pm at a lower unsubsidised fee. Please speak to Lorraine in the office if this is something which you are interested in.



Please keep sending in photos of your craft pack creations and other photos, as we have enjoyed seeing what you are getting up to at home during lockdown. We miss all your smiling faces and playing games and activities with you, so we are grateful you have been keeping busy.

Our trainset has been the most popular activity over this past month. It has promoted sharing, communication, creation and spatial awareness. We have extended our tracks all along the ledge and over to on top of the shelves.





We have been using all our gross motor and core body strength as we have been whizzing around on the spinny activity. We have to use our arm muscles to pull us around and we have to lean to distribute our weight to make it spin. It sounds more complex then it is but it is very fun.

Garden Room

The month of August was different to our usual attendance pattern but no less productive or enjoyable in the garden room. We loved having the opportunity to let the children voice their opinions and have autonomy when it came to choosing the activities that we participated in throughout the month.

In September we will be touching on body and personal safety, this will be supported with the Daniel Morcombe foundation resources. These include stories and short videos which

provide factual and important information for the children to become more aware of how to take care of their own body and selves.

We have also seen a great interest in dramatic baby play. To follow on with this interest we have created a display in dramatic corner which shows baby pictures of our garden room children. We look forward to when restrictions ease and we can have all our children back so we can begin to guess who each person is in the photos! Thank you so much to the families

who have sent in photos, and we can't wait to receive some more soon 😊



Star Room

Hello to all our beautiful Star Room families,

As our attendance has been low, we have revised our program to facilitate child and family participation from home. Online links have been provided on the program so they can be used to access some of the content we are sharing here at the service.



Through the month of August children have engaged in various stories and experiences based on rhyme and repetition. This fosters early literacy skills and the development of vocabulary. Children have shown a great interest in this, and it is evident in their play. With child-initiated experiences

such as storytelling and role-playing familiar stories such as 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'.



We will be exploring FMS (fundamental movement skills). These skills come with guidance and practice. Over the past month we have been engaging in the skill of striking. Pool noodles and soft balls or balloons are a great way to foster the skill of striking. We are continuing to support FMS with a focus on hopping and jumping through music experiences and games over the next program.





Over the last month we have participated in Science Week. We have explored some exiting chemical reactions through hands-on science experiments focusing on concepts such as cause and effect, comparing, observing, and predicting. The Star room children have been showing a strong interest in making volcano's and exploring the chemical reaction of bi-carb soda and vinegar. Noah and Eddie are consistently asking “can we make volcano's”.

As Child protection week is coming up next week, we will be sharing Australia's Biggest safety lessons featured on the Daniel Morcombe foundation web page. While it may feel uncomfortable having these conversations with children, research suggests the earlier we can have these conversations about keeping our bodies safe the more empowered children will feel to report or potentially avoid becoming victims of varying forms of abuse. “Personal safety education provides children with the knowledge they need to recognise potentially unsafe situations or people and know how to respond. It is part of preventing abuse and keeping kids safe.” Daniel Morcombe Foundation 2019 .



[[http://\(73\) Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson - Safety School - YouTube](http://(73) Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson - Safety School - YouTube)]If you would like to visit the clip featured in 2018 please click here for the direct link.

Quandialla

Hello

We welcomed to Beatrice and her family who has joined us at Quandialla preschool this month, we hope you enjoy your time with us.



Book Week Dress-ups

25.8.21



Peter Pan and
Willbee the
Bumblebee



Batman



Super Storm



Wendy from Peter Pan and
Betty from the Fairiest Fairy



Dinosaur

PIC•COLLAGE

At Quandialla we participated in book week with the children dressing up for the day. Miss Laraine and Miss Belinda also dressed up. As we have been in lockdown due to Covid Beatrice, and her sister Georgina dressed up at home and sent us in a photo. As the children enjoyed dressing - up we will have a dress up day for our last day of term on the 15th of September. If we happen to be still in lock down, please feel free to dress up and send us a photo as well.

The children have been participating in craft experiences to strengthen their fine motor skills. This has been through cutting with scissors and collage and rubber band painting. Rubber bands were placed around a box which had paint on them. The children then had to pull the bands up flicking the paint onto the paper. At first the children only slightly pulled the band

and then they used more force. Fine motor skills are important for hand control when learning to write. Some of the children are showing an interest in writing their own name on craft.



We can't wait to see our children and families who haven't been due to the current lockdown. We hope you are enjoying time with your families and hope to see you all soon.

This is our email address quandialla@grenfellpreschool.com.au if you have any questions or if you have been on holidays or have something to share.

We love seeing photos of what the children have been up to at home.

Caragabal

Hi Families

Loose Parts in Action

Loose parts are open-ended materials that can be moved, combined, taken apart, redesigned, lined-up and more. Loose parts allow children to do the thinking, which develops problem solving, imagination and persistence.



During third term the children have started to utilise our loose parts in their play. Cardboard tubes have been used as sausage rolls, gum nuts as meatballs, pop sticks as spaghetti, octagons were used as tomatoes and the blue and orange wooden coffee pods were used in cups as water and orange juice. The magnetic posts and balls became chopped up meat for pet dinosaurs. The children have also used loose parts as dog food and cat food to feed their pets (each other).



If you have anything at home you think we could use, please send it in, or contact us if you are unsure. If you have any plastic tubes – large or small – please send them in as well, they would be a good addition to outdoor play.

Board Report

The Board would like to extend our well wishes to Wez as he starts his journey as the service Director. Wez has a genuine commitment to high quality early childhood education and this will be evident in his decision making and leadership style that will benefit the future services offered by GPLDCC. If you are yet to make contact with Wez, I would encourage you reach out and assist with his developing knowledge about the children and their families that access the service and what is most important to you as a family accessing this service, both now and in the future. The Board would also like to thank Holly, Lorraine and the educators for their ongoing commitment and efforts to offer quality early childhood education to children of the Weddin Shire through challenging times.

Families are reminded that important information regarding the service is being communicated via email direct to the email address you have provided. Our intention is to communicate with purpose and offer as much clarity as we can. It may not always be perfect, but we do our best and invest a great deal of time and energy into each piece of communication. In the event you need to discuss your personal point of view or circumstances, be assured you can contact any member of the Board or operational leadership team (Wez, Holly or Lorraine) at any time.

The Annual General Meeting for GPLDCC will be convened Monday 20th September 2021, starting at 7:30pm. It is likely this meeting will need to be convened via Zoom, due to current government restrictions. Details to access the meeting will only be issued to those who RSVP so please ensure you advise of your attendance to belinda@bmconsultancy.com.au. Attendance at the AGM will offer members an opportunity to elect the next intake of Directors to the Board, as well as an opportunity to hear an annual report from the Board and the operational leadership team. Electing a Board of Directors is essential to the ongoing operations of the service. In the event no

nominations are received, the service will be obliged to cease operations from Tuesday 21st September until a Board is elected.

Actions for you to take:

1. RSVP if you plan on attending
2. Provide support and encouragement to anyone you think is well placed to be nominated to be on the Board – they are your representatives!
3. Check with Lorraine that you have submitted your membership application form (only members can be vote) or request a form to become a member (only members can be nominated)
4. Contact Lorraine or a member of the existing Board for a nomination form – your nomination form will need to be signed by an existing Board member and be submitted prior to the AGM

Finally, I would like to say this is my last newsletter submission. Being on the Board over the last three years has been incredibly challenging at times, though on the whole it has been rewarding. I joined because I value and place great importance on ensuring children have access to quality early childhood education. At times I have felt conflicted, as much of what the Board needs to work through can be adult-centric and peripheral to the needs of the children. My hope is that the contribution I have made has ultimately benefited the service and community, and that in return will create a better environment for our children to grow and prosper.

Belinda Mawhinney

Director, Board of Directors

Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre

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Monthly Newsletter

Our mailing address is:

office@grenfellpreschool.com.au

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