



grenfell preschool & long day care centre

☎ 02 6343 1743 📠 02 6343 1304 email: mail@grenfellpreschool.com.au

newsletter august 2020

Star Room

MS-Read-a-thon has officially started and we have already reached our ½ way mark with the 100 books.

Big School is fast approaching for those of us who are heading off in 2021. If you have any concerns please let us know and we will be more than happy to arrange a meeting to discuss your child's progress with you. Now is the best time to make contact with the intended school you are wishing to send your child to, so they can add you to their contact lists. At this stage, any transition programs have been put on hold until further notice.

News time has been a big hit. We are still ironing out a few crinkles of a perfect time of the day and reassuring those whose day it is, and those it may not be, but we will get there. We have seen some great skills being used to captivate their audience and encouraging voice projection. We will continue to tweak our news time. The news roster is attached in case you have misplaced your copy.

Star Room News Roster Term 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Adam	Austin	Adelaide	Abby	Aaron
Clarence	Charlotte	Ashlyn	Aiden	Anna
Claudia	Walter	Bronte	Flynn	Georgie
Fletcher	George	Gus	Harry	Jed L
Heidi	Isabelle	Jed G	Jessica	Luke
Octavia	Liam	Maegan	Marlie	Murray
Remi	Max	Nate	Rex	Nixon
Kaisey	Timmy	Willow		

These past few weeks we have been focusing on a variety of skills with the children:

- Comprehension skills – we have been reading in small groups and 1:1 with the children to get an indication on their comprehension skills – understanding what is happening in the story, what happened before, during and after events in the story, memory skills and verbal communication skills.
- Conflict resolution – we have been extending on our conflict resolution skills through a variety of structured and non-structured activities. We have been using turn taking games to develop and strengthen our turn taking, waiting skills, negotiating rules and roles for the games, positive relationships and peer interactions. We have also been using role modelling as a way to show appropriate words and actions to use when we are showing signs of frustration.



- Communication skills over the day's program. We still have a few quiet children who seem to shy away from interacting verbally so we have been increasing the opportunities for these children to feel more secure and embrace their confidence in talking over a variety of activities – structured and non-structured- through the day. We have been using structured time – meals, lining up, group times – to pair up the children with this in mind, to encourage opportunities of expanding their vocabulary and confidence.

Garden Room

We have set up a car corner area for children to role model road safety. They have been having a lovely time, putting the dolls in the car seats and capsules. We would love a picture of our Garden Room Children in their car seats. Please email them to mail@grenfellpreschool.com.au.

We have been watching the Keeping Kid's Safe clip. We hope families have been able to have a chat to their children about who their 5 safe people are that they can go to talk about any feelings or problems they have.

Sunshine Room

The Sunshine Room this month have been having fun learning about yoga. Regular yoga practice helps promote a healthier body through poses that stretch, strengthen and build coordination too. Kids' yoga improves flexibility and increases blood flow, which in turn can help reduce the risk of injury during other physical activity.

Like adults, children have to deal with their own stress in life. When children practice yoga it increases their confidence, builds concentration and strengthens growing bodies. We are finding that yoga has improved the children's impulses in a positive direction and provides the children with an outlet as a way to manage those impulsive behaviours.

Yoga teaches how the body and mind are inter connected and how we should be aware of our selves. When children are engaged, focused, having fun, while practicing yoga, they are in the present moment. This self-awareness of both body and mind helps children to be cautious in any situation. It also teaches children that we are all the same inside, despite our outward appearance, culture, and religion. We all have bodies that function, hearts that love, and feelings that feel. Yoga inspires children to be kind, patient, accepting, and emphatic with themselves and their peers.

The children have been interested and engaged with exploring with different paints and painting tools. They have enjoyed the challenge of the different types of brushes (long handle, stubby handle, thin handle) which target small muscle development such as fingers, hands and wrists, as well as hand/eye coordination and arm strength and core/posture strength at the easels.

Our children are loving the big yard. We have been surprised at how fast some of the children mastered pedalling the bikes, and also the diggers in the sandpit – all great activities for supporting development of those large body muscles.

Rainbow Room

The Rainbow room have been doing an amazing job at becoming familiar with our transition's songs – we sing these songs to group together on the mat before mealtimes. We have been practicing our patience and waiting our turn as we sing our hand washing turn, this is also helping with name recognition.

Over the past month we have been enjoying many sensory activities as well promoting our self-help skills and taking off our own shoes and socks before bed.

The rainbow room have been enjoying our new room set up, we have converted our 'carpet end' into our new gymnasium. We have changed the room to support the children's interest as well as helping support their developmental areas.

We ask parents to please read the reminder area on the article each week as well, thank you 😊



Caragabal

At the Caragabal venue of the WMPS we have been learning about farm safety. The children have written their own farm safety rules. Here are some examples of their rules: you could get locked in gaol, you can't go in the shed 'cos it's boring and only for dads, don't go in the pool by yourself, don't drink poison, it will make you sick and don't play with the bulls, they have horns. We have also talked about what farm animals eat and what they do eg: dogs chase sheep, cows moo! The children have showed a good awareness of how to stay safe on the farm, which was impressive. They have been creating a "farm" on the wall, they have planned what they farm needs and how to make some of the animals. During group discussions, the children have shown respect for others opinions and the patience to wait their turn.

They have been asking about butterflies and bees, so we've been learning about them as well.

Today we celebrated Aboriginal Children's Week. The children listened to some Dreamtime stories, and we all did some nature art, after going for a bush walk to collect "treasures".



Quandialla

The children have enjoyed camping – yes camping. We even enjoyed pretend cooking on a pretend fire. We have also been investigating bush foods. We have some great play bush foods such as honey ants, yabbies' and quondongs.

The Grenfell Preschool were given a big bucket of yogurt as a trial and we have enjoyed cooking with the yogurt as well as freezing some into ice blocks with fruit pieces. Next time you are shopping let your child buy some favourite fruit and yogurt and make your own at home – yum.

Over the past few weeks we have been focusing on road safety and in particular crossing roads safely and holding hands, what traffic lights mean, car safety in particular seat belts and travel safety.

We are fortunate to have Stacey the Speech Therapist being able to still visit us face to face and we are continuing to support Stacey's hard work by reading lots of sound specific stories and singing lots of songs to exercise little voices and little facial muscles.

Reminders

- ✚ We ask that parents check our Facebook page on a regular basis. We will be posting up to date information regarding the transition back to the Child Care Subsidy system, Covid19, reminders, activities and other important information as it comes to hand.
- ✚ Due to increasing numbers in the Centre, we require **24 hours' notice** when booking your child in for a casual day, including Before and After School Care. Numbers are also limited for After School Care. Please call between 8am-4pm.
- ✚ Notes have gone home in regards to the ever popular Pictureproducts. Drawings can be done either at home, or at Pre School. Templates are available at the office. The end date is this Friday 10th August, so please let us know as soon as possible if you would like any.
- ✚ We are currently holding a Wet and Dry Bag Fundraiser. Notes will go home in lunch boxes this week. When you place an order, you will not only earn 20% of each wet bag sale for our centre, you will also help to reduce the use of disposable bags and help us become a more sustainable centre.

Upcoming Events

Welcome to **Early Learning Matters Week 2020**. ELM raises awareness of the role of early childhood education and care in children's development and wellbeing in Australia. The community of Grenfell and surrounds are fortunate to have access to high-quality education and care which supports young children to learn and thrive, in cooperation with parents, carers and the wider community.

Early Learning Matters Week was first staged in 2018, as part of the *Early Learning: Everyone Benefits* campaign, supported by a coalition of more than 20 early childhood service providers, peak bodies and research and advocacy groups.

Initially, the primary purpose of **Early Learning Matters Week** was to better inform political decision-makers – across the party spectrum and across the nation – about the benefits of early learning. Now, we have expanded our horizons to include families and communities in **Early Learning Matters Week**, in recognition of the role early learning services play in supporting families and building our society.

I encourage you to be part of **Early Learning Matters Week** and join the online campaign to raise awareness and understanding about the importance of early learning and highlight why **Early Learning Matters** to you. Use social media platforms to share photos, videos and written messages with the tag #EarlyLearningMatters.

For more information access <https://www.earlylearningmatters.org.au/>.

Be sure to watch the special video message in the Video Gallery section from the GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND MRS HURLEY.