



St. Dunstan's Preschool

Newsletter March/April 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for all your support during our first term at St Dunstan's Preschool.

Upcoming Dates

Class	Dates	Events
Chingu and Bunji (2 Day)	Friday 29 th of March	Good Friday- Preschool will be closed
Amigo and Rafiki (3 Day)	Monday 1 st of April	Easter Monday- Preschool will be closed
Amigo and Rafiki (3 Day) Chingu and Bunji (2 Day)	Week starting 8 th of April	Excursion- Walk about the block (permission notes will be emailed via Adobe)
Amigo and Rafiki (3 Day)	Wednesday 10 th of April	Last day for Term 1
Chingu and Bunji (2 Day)	Friday 12 th of April	Last day for Term 1
Amigo and Rafiki (3 Day)	Monday 29 th of April	First Day back for Term 2
Chingu and Bunji (2 Day)	Thursday 2 nd of May	First Day back for Term 2

Management Committee for 2023

On Tuesday March 19, we held our Annual General Meeting and welcomed our new and returning parent and church representatives:

Parent Representatives:

- Megan Tonkin (Treasurer)
- Claire Hinggerson (Vice President)
- Eva Park
- Janelle Stock

Church Representatives:

- Tim Adams (Secretary)
- Robyn Hattingh (President)
- Robyn McMurdo (Assistant Secretary)
- Albertus Hattingh
- Craig McMurdo

A big THANK YOU and welcome to the new committee, we are looking forward to another positive and productive year for the preschool.

Community Easter Celebrations



Celebrate Easter
WITH US!

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
JOHN 3:16

EASTER FESTIVAL
11:15AM 29 MARCH
AT KINGS PARK

FREE
Hot Cross Buns
Puppet Show
Kids Craft & Activities

Which 5 colours help us remember why Easter is so good? Come find out!

find out more at macang.org

GOOD FRIDAY (29 MARCH)
10am Traditional at 114 Lovell Rd
11:15am Easter Festival at Kings Park

EASTER SUNDAY (31 MARCH)
at 100 Balaclava Rd
8:30am Traditional
10:30am Contemporary *
10:30am 부활절 예배 *
6pm Less formal
* including kids & youth program

MACQUARIE ANGLICAN

Family photos

We would like some family photos to add to your child's Preschool Journey book. Please hand the photos to your child's teacher or email them to mail@stdpk.org.au and we can print them off for you.

Harmony Day

Thank you, for helping us celebrate Harmony Day at preschool. We all loved sharing wonderful food from around the world, as well as seeing different cultural clothes and listening to music and musical instruments. We have started our belonging map across the back wall. The map celebrates every family and the cultural backgrounds they identify with.



Learning Journey Books

Over the holidays we will be sending home the children's learning journey books for you to read and share as a family. We encourage all families to add stories and photos about their holiday adventures or anything else you do as a family throughout the year. In previous years we have been very impressed with contributions of photos, stories, and craft work. The children then have the opportunity to share their holiday adventures with their peers during their first week back as their show and tell.

Our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

“The aim of a Quality Improvement Plan is to help providers self-assess their performance in delivering quality education and care, and to plan future improvements”.

As a team of educators, we have been going through the self-assessment tool to celebrate the preschool's strengths as well as to determine areas that we can continue to improve on.

The QIP encompasses 7 quality areas. Please find more information below regarding the 7 quality areas along with our preschool goal.

Quality Area	What it includes	Our Goal for Preschool
Quality Area 1- Educational program and practice	“Educational program and practice of educators are child-centred, stimulating and maximise opportunities for enhancing and extending each child's learning and development”	To implement a practice that will allow for meaningful and constant reciprocal partnerships to be more evident.
Quality Area 2- Children's health and safety	“Children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that safeguards and promotes their health, safety and wellbeing.”	To educate and collaborate with our families regarding important topics such as child safety as evidence shows these need to be reinforced with all stakeholders.
Quality Area 3- Physical Environment	“Physical environment is safe, suitable and provides a rich and diverse range of experiences that promote children's learning and development”.	To build a new inclusive play space that allows all children to engage to their full potential. Input will be sought from educators, families, children, Occupational Therapists and literature
Quality Area 4- Staffing Arrangement	“Qualified and experienced educators, who develop warm, respectful relationships with children, create predictable environments and encourage children's active engagement in the learning program”.	To continue to collaborate as a team, building on the shared knowledge we have to ensure we are providing high quality education.
Quality Area 5- Relationships with children	“Relationships with children are responsive, respectful and promote children's sense of security and belonging”.	To include more of the children and family's voices within our St Dunstan's Rights of the Child
Quality Area 6- Collaborative relationships with families and communities	“Collaborative relationships with families are fundamental to achieving quality outcomes for children, and community partnerships based on active communication, consultation and collaboration are essential”.	To create more authentic connections within the community.

Quality Area 7- Governance and Leadership	“Effective leadership and governance of the service contributes to quality environments for children’s learning and development. Effective leaders establish shared values for the service and set clear direction for the service’s continuous improvement”.	To engage feedback from all stakeholders on our policies and procedures throughout the whole process rather than to review them upon completion.
-------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

For more information on what the QIP or Quality Areas involve please go to <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/>

We will be displaying our goals along with space for your comments next term and we would love your feedback and support with this.

Casual Educator Needed

Do you know anyone that might be interested?

Our St Dunstan’s Family is growing, and we are recruiting a casual educator who is passionate about children’s learning and would be committed to supporting the preschool to provide a high-quality educational program.

This role is for a casual educator which means hours will differ from week to week depending on the preschool’s current needs.

- You will need to hold a Certificate III or Diploma in children services (ACECQA Approved) and a Current Working with Children Check (WWCC)

If you would like more information regarding the role and skills required, please speak to Michelle.

Applications close on the 11th of April 2024. Only successful applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Aloe Vera

We have a lot of aloe vera growing in our garden. If you would like some to take home (can either use it, or replant it), please let us know.

Friendly Reminders

- Please remember your **child’s hat**. With the unpredictable weather we have been experiencing it is important to make sure that your child is **wearing sensible clothing** and that you apply sunscreen to your child upon arrival at preschool. **Sunscreen** is always available on top of the lockers and at the outside sink. We will assist your child with application for afternoon outside play.
- Please remember to **pack spare clothes** (including items for cooler and warmer weather).
- **Slow down** and drive carefully in the **carpark**.
- Always hand your **child’s medication** to a member of staff and complete a medication form.
- Sandals and running **shoes** are the best choice for climbing our obstacle course, so no thongs, Ugg boots or crocs please.
- Please remember to bring a **water bottle**.

- Please **do not hold the gates open** for long periods of time as it can be an opportunity for children to leave the preschool unaccompanied.
- Please **do not leave any siblings in your car**. It is against the law. If this causes issues for you, see a staff member for assistance.
- Please remember we are an **allergy aware preschool**.

Michelle, Stacey, Esther, Terrie, Mimi, Rubi, Sephine, Young, Ben, Lynette and Simone