Important Dates for your diary, calendar, phone, tablet, computer…or even fridge!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governing Council Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road Safety Centre Excursion</td>
<td>Tuesday 15(^{th}) March. <strong>We leave at 9am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 13(^{rd}) April  Early Dismissal 2-30pm</td>
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<td>First day of Term 2</td>
<td>Tuesday 3(^{rd}) May</td>
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If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.

Albert Einstein.

Curriculum News

It has been a very busy start to the year with children getting to know each other and this has been a large focus in the programme. We have been singing songs and playing games with names, talking to the group about our “Who am I?” posters and sharing them with our friends. Our programme is based around the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) for Australia with three elements that underpin our teaching, curriculum decision making and interactions with children. They are

**BELONGING**

**BEING**

**BECOMING**

These elements are connected by a focus on relationships as it is in and through relationships that children learn. We obviously aim for these relationships to be positive, focussed on learning and fostering kindness among our kindergarten community. To this end we have talked about safety rules and limits (on our upcoming excursion and at kindergarten) and we are beginning to talk about recognising feelings of others and ourselves.

We have begun a list of ways of being safe at kindergarten. This is what we (the children and staff) have come up with so far. It will be a list developed over the year so check in from time to time to see what has been added and ask you child.

**Being SAFE at kindergarten**

1. It is only safe to walk inside
2. It is not OK to hurt people…we have safe hands.
3. We all need to keep our bodies safe…we make safe and kind choices.

Just so you know, each item has its own colour and when we are reminding each other we say “beautiful pink number one is it is only safe to walk inside”

What you can do at home?

Having expectations around certain safety behaviours (limits and rules) provides a sense of security to many children. Being consistent in reminding children when they go beyond the safety limit is critical to maintain this security. If you have different expectations at different times or if adults in the family have different expectations children will get confused and this can create anxiety and make children feel powerless.

Talk about how you keep yourself safe at home.

Where are the safe places to play?
Where are the places where you can only go with an adult?
When is it OK to kick (a ball!) and when is it not OK to kick?
How do you keep yourself safe?
Is it OK to push others?
Is it Ok to throw toys?

What are your safety rules at home?
Do you have them written down?
Ask your children to contribute to developing a short list (stick with the most important!) of safety expectations which show kindness and respect to others in your house.

**Family Values – What are your rocks?**

Each family has different (but often similar) values and we would like you to contribute one of the values in your family that is important to you and you feel would be important at kindergarten. You can do this by writing it on one of the rocks by the sign-in sheet at the front door. This will be a reminder to everyone of the importance of the values we all hold to guide our life as we live and learn at kindergarten in a diverse and vibrant community.

**Information Sharing**

On Wednesday 9th March Sally or Victoria will give you a ‘Yellow Plan’. They yellow plan is one of the regular ways that we collect information from you about your child. We want to know from you, what are their strengths, abilities and interests, what you think about their development and how they learn. Please fill it in and return it as soon as possible as the staff will then use it to plan an individual programme for your child, building on their strengths and supporting their ongoing development and learning. We will keep in touch with you about the yellow plan throughout the year.

**Governing Council**

Thanks to the families who were able to come to the kindergarten for our welcome party. A few people mentioned that they had other commitments on this night so the turn out was smaller than we hoped. However, there will be other family occasions during the year so we hope to see more of you next time.

After the welcome party we had the Annual General Meeting (AGM) We now have a small governing council (3 parents and 2 staff)
Congratulations Michaela Banks, Lucy Lewis and Moheza Mahmood. Thankyou for contributing some of your precious time to the kindergarten and the children.
We still have places for more and are happy for others to join throughout the year. Please speak to Victoria if you are keen. Once a time for meeting has been set with the interested people it will be advertised in the newsletter (and on the front door) and everyone is welcome to come along.

**EXCURSION NEWS**

The excursion to the Road Safety Centre is in two weeks. Please fill in the details on the permission form attached to this email and return ASAP. Spare permission forms are at kindergarten.

**Thanks**

Sally, Elizabeth, Jo and Victoria