Greetings to all parents,

Spring is in the air and the hayfever has struck. Kindy families will finish at the end of next week for a 2 week break and childcare will remain open. We are still collecting parent consent sheets for the private safe web platform called KEPTME that will allow us to put on child observations and allow you to access it from an app on your phone or a website. We have spare consent forms in our community carousel in the reception area if you need a new one.

We have enjoyed sending out photos and texts to families who have joined our mobile phone system. We have been able to share special moments, movies, fathers day photos and reassuring texts to parents. This is a no reply system for parents and carers and will allow educators to provide you with a quick snapshot of your child’s time with us. You can only receive messages from us if you opt into this service.

If you have one or multiple numbers in your family, please send us a text from each phone with your full name and child’s name eg Text : Christina Ziegler Child-Kyle Our phone number is 0400 904 366

Centre Christmas Closure – Advance notice… The Governing Council have approved the closure of the centre from Thursday 24th December. We will reopen on Monday 4th January at 7.45pm.

Dress up days—Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd September—come along wearing something fancy, crazy, super duper, costume, fairy, etc

Staff news: we would like to congratulate Lisa Fechner on her successful news in winning the position of Assistant Director when Kylie Magain goes on maternity leave in December. Lisa will begin her induction in the childcare rooms during term 4. We know that Lisa will do a great job.

Bethany’s Award night—Last Friday Gilda and Christina attended the Business SA awards presentation night at the Entertainment Centre to represent the centre. Bethany’s nomination in the School Based Apprentice of the Year was amongst a very high calibre of participants and although she did not win, reaching the finals is a fantastic achievement. She placed 2nd in the people’s choice award. Well done Bethany, we are very proud of you.

Gilda and Shelley—Both teachers in the preschool were also recognised by parents this year in the Excellence in Teaching Awards. Congratulations to them on their nominations. They were not amongst the final selection but were worthy candidates who strive for excellence in children’s learning.

Grandparents Week—Monday 19th October to Thursday 23rd October—We would like to welcome any Grandparents of children using the centre to come along and visit us. Children and Grandparents share a special bond and we would love the children to be able to share their special place with them for a short visit. Come along between 8.30 and 3pm.

Waikerie Children’s Centre uses the Early Years Learning Framework, being Australia’s first National Curriculum Statement for educators working in early education and care settings with children from birth- to age five. The elements of the framework are:

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**
- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with & contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident & involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

**PRACTICE:**
- Holistic approaches
- Responsiveness to children
- Learning through play
- Intentional teaching
- Learning environments
- Cultural competence
- Continuity of learning & transitions
- Assessment for learning

**PRINCIPLES:**
- Secure, respectful & reciprocal relationships
- Partnerships with families
- High expectations & equity
- Respect for diversity
- Ongoing & reflective practice
**Earn and Learn** Thanks to everyone for your stickers...we will be sending off our sticker sheets to Modern Teaching Aids on Wednesday 23rd Sept, so you have until Tuesday 22nd to search for any more stickers or half sheets that you might still have lying around the house.

**KINDY CHILDREN IN 2016**
If your child turns 4 before May 1st 2016 they will be able to start kindy in Term 1 next year. As part of the transition to kindy, the separating doors are opened between kindy and childcare to allow for more shared experiences. These in the past have helped children to feel more at ease when starting kindy as they are familiar with staff, the room and the routine.

If you know of any families that may have children turning 4 before May 1st, 2016 please let them know to come and register children on our waiting list. We will be planning an information session in term 4 for families and will need to contact all families concerned.

**Fundraiser Toy catalogues— Only one more order left.— 23rd October.**
Once again our annual toy catalogue fundraiser has begun with 3 catalogues being available for you to place orders from. The toy companies are our suppliers and offer great educational and well made toys. There will be 2 order dates—18th September and **23rd October.** The centre receives a 20% voucher from the total of orders.

**Robbie the guinea pig**— would you like to take Robbie home for the weekend. We will supply you with his cage and food. The children love to hold him and it helps learn about the responsibility of caring for animals. Just write your name on the roster on his cage.

**SHOE BOXES OF LOVE**— every year our centre generously collects items to put into shoeboxes to send to children overseas. This is another opportunity for us to contribute to children in countries that are not as fortunate as us. We will leave a box in the foyer to collect items. Enclosed with this newsletter is a flyer that explains the process a bit more and one that you can share with your child. We will collect items from now on until the middle of October. **We thank you for your anticipated support.**

**Some of the things you can donate...**

- **SOMETHING TO LOVE**
- **SOMETHING FOR SCHOOL**
- **SOMETHING TO WEAR**
- **SOMETHING TO PLAY WITH**
- **SOMETHING FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE**
- **SOMETHING SPECIAL**

Items need to fit into a box 25cm x 15cm. Please bring along your items and we will fill up the 30 shoeboxes that we have received to fill.

Please ask Lisa for any further details.

**Items that do not fit will go to the Riverland Christmas Appeal.**
All items must be NEW, no second hand items.

**Sunsmart Policy:** Just a reminder with the hot weather that all children are required to wear a broad rimmed hat, t-shirts and dresses with sleeves and appropriate footwear.

**FOOTWEAR** … . How are those shoes looking??...It may be time for that new pair of sandals that fit your child correctly so that they don't slip when they climb or walk.

Thongs and crocs are not appropriate. Shoes that children can run and climb in are highly recommended.

**WATER play time is here!!!** Please send along extra clothes in your child’s bag so that we can change them when they get wet from water play.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR:** COT SHEETS, 4 DRAWER FILING CABINET WITH KEY.

**DIARY DATES: SEE TERM AGENDA'S**

- 22/9– DRESS UP DAY
- 23/9– Dress up day
- 23/9– Year 2/3 Lutheran class visit
- 23/9– Kindy surveys due
- 24/9– Kindy children visit Lutheran school, last day of term.
- 12/10– first day of term 4
- 19/10– Grandparents week
- 10/12– Student free day in kindy, FAMILY NIGHT 5.45PM (byo PICNIC)

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