**Child Side Update** Term 1 Easter

**Easter Breakfast:**
This Thursday is our Family Easter Breakfast, which is a simple gathering to share food and acknowledge the good things in our lives. Families are invited to bring along an item for our Easter table that is symbolic of this holiday for them, whether it is a bunch of fresh flowers to acknowledge winter is our season of rain and growth in the Southern Hemisphere or a hand painted egg to represent Easter symbolism. We hope this gesture invites some thought about this holiday from children and families both reflecting on the historic and symbolic themes and on family rituals and significance.

**Shape of Thursday:**
**Arrival:** Help set up long Easter Tables and bbq etc (FLA, parents, Lisa/Clair’s mob). All children not engaged in set up come down to the ECC area and engage with tasks set up by Rachel and Leonie. Shared food platters to go in middle kitchen, Parents invited to make themselves a cuppa (being mindful of active, excited, tired children). Start cooking.

**Breakfast:** Around 9:30 or when all set up.
We encouraged families to sit together and those without family members to sit with the Child Side family (Rachel, Leonie etc...). Families are then invited up to choose their breakfast and sit down together and enjoy it, whilst others then make their way to the food table.

Children of all ages are learning life skills of sharing food and festivities considerately and being mindful of others and all contributing to the goodwill of the morning in different ways (whether this means just choosing 4 items to eat rather than filling a plate, sitting down for as long as possible, waiting for seconds until everyone has had firsts, engaging in a shared conversation rather than just own chatter..., setting up or cleaning up, offering an adult a chair...). We want to acknowledge all the little actions as ways communities all contribute to a shared event.

**Welcoming the Growth Season and the Rain:**
Unlike the northern hemisphere where Easter celebrates the breaking of winter and the welcoming of spring and the sun, we welcome the rains and our season of growth by walking around the lake as a large group, drumming to call in the ‘thunder’ and invite a lush rainy season to support nature and our food production. Children are welcome to make hand shakers (rice in a container etc) or bring along hand drums to invite the rainy season as we walk and observe the dry grass, low water level, thirsty trees... and of course, watching out for snakes!

**Home for the holidays:** 12pm. Please make sure you have all of your children’s clothes, shoes, water bottles as we do a Good Samaritan run in the holidays of all left behind gear (it all adds up over the year.) Travel safe and enjoy quality family time

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**Important Dates**

- **Check website and whiteboards.**
  - **Thursday 2nd April:** School ends 12 pm after our family Easter breakfast: Shared Plate of Food. Closed shoes are required for the walk around the lake. Kindies, younger siblings and prams very welcome along with their families, please keep them close and tuned into the ‘intent of the day’. All eyes and ears needed.

- **Lisa overseas from Monday 30th March to Monday 4th May.** Clair Bedford replacing Lisa.

- **Staff Professional Development Meeting with AISWA about mandatory Child Protection policies and procedures:** This Wednesday 1st April. Please be PROMPT to pick up children as we have Perth people in-servicing staff and have a lot to get through before then attending our governing council meeting later that same evening.

- **Governing Council (GC) meeting:** 1st April 6pm till late.

- **Picasso Cow Project Request:** Wanted: dairy product packaging... Clean cartons, plastic milk bottles, yoghurt, butter for building project, still life drawing, cardboard tubes (not toilet paper) for vats....