

Child Side Update Term 1 Feb

Welcome to 2015... It was another smooth start to the year thanks to our 'small by design', the shape of our day and mostly staff and parental approach. Children will be tired by now, especially with the heat... so we will continue to tip-toe and ease our way back into rhythm. Please remember the 'shape' of Wednesday is very different and that EVERY Wednesday is **early close 2pm** to enable staff and individual families to meet (LTD-Learning Team Debriefs) at the request of the family, educator or child. Staff also spend this time updating with policies + curriculum changes etc... Welcome to Toni, who is joining us down the ECC end as support staff on Tuesdays and Fridays. Welcome to all our new families. Please ask lots of questions and take the time and effort to create your own personal niche within our established community and remember it takes time to adjust and blend. Welcome back to the other on-site organisations, FLA (Family Learning Association- post Child Side families, year 7+) and playgroup who share similar aspirations and educational approaches. We also support the Light House model (Maggie Dent) of shared learning spaces and mentoring opportunities (BPEA) with those who have connections to Child Side (see us about our 'Incubator' ideas).

Summer Reminder:



Please note hats (broad-brim and labelled), water bottles, shoes for fitness (WEDNESDAYS) are essential DAILY work tools for everyone at school. A spare set of clothes (essential for the Early Childhood Cluster ECC) is also needed as the outdoor learning environment is utilised daily

Community Support and Engagement: We do practice mandatory safety drills (fire, wild weather, snake alert...) and actively teach children how to be aware of and manage risks, in particular those related to health, hygiene and safety (including cyber safety and social boundaries) and how to access information and help. We ask our whole community to help us integrate this positively and practically (non- fear based) into everyday school and home life as "Education (and resiliency) is everyone's business" BPEA. Please help be the eyes and ears for **all** children, regardless of age and developmental stage, (including FLA and playgroup) and inform staff if/when you observe anything 'risky' in the in or outdoor environment or between children and the environment or each other. Please help keep an eye out for **young siblings** and be mindful of hot drinks, small and broken objects, open doors and GATES (which need to ALWAYS be closed) and helping return objects they constantly drop



Mountain Bike programme for Years 3+ running **this** term from **week 2**. Focus is on skills, endurance, resilience and confidence. The progress children have made over time is phenomenal. Please make sure bikes are in working order and that helmets and closed in shoes come along too. Bikes and helmets can stay at school, locked in HUB. Please see AJ on Monday morning if you have any queries. AJ is an accredited Bike Skills coach and will continue to volunteer his time weekly.

We are seeking: 2x small, compact couches in **good** condition for our Meet and Greet room, middle building. We are also seeking commercial fridges and kitchen sinks to eventually upgrade our kitchens which form an essential part of our everyday curriculum. We also need a hot water system for the middle building.

Important Dates Please

check website and whiteboard outside the middle building.

Minister for Education, Peter

Collier visit to Child Side: - This will take place on Friday 20th Feb. The Minister accepted our invitation to visit our school last year. He will be viewing the school and will also be meeting with our Governing Council to discuss other business.

Wednesday Early Close 2pm for Staff dialogues and family

LTDs: Please see Karron to book a time for an LTD (learning team debriefs- staff, family, child) if required.

Incidental Busy bees: Family commitments, especially children's sporting commitments on weekends make it difficult to organise our essential busy bees to help maintains and upgrade the physical environment. So jobs constantly go up on the whiteboard in the Meet and Greet room (middle building) for anyone to carry out 'incidentally' when they can make time. Your time, effort and skills ARE greatly appreciated. If you notice anything that needs doing or have an idea please see Karron

Washing: We *rely on families* to grab a load of kitchen washing to keep our kitchen life skills running.