



Pumpkin Long Day Care Centre

7 O'CONNELL AVENUE
MATRAVILLE NSW 2036
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Management@pumpkinldcc.com.au

September 2014

Centre News

Spring is her now! We can't wait to see the flowers in our garden begin to blossom. We will have lots of outdoor plays this season, so please remember to bring your child's hat and jumper in case the weather gets cold.

In the beginning of this month we will celebrate the Father's day on Sunday, 07th September. To all the fathers, please come and join us for "Father's Day afternoon tea" on Friday, 05th Sept at 3.20 pm.



Parents Reminder

Please remember to bring a hat for your child (not cap), as the weather is getting warmer now. Please also bring your child's bed sheets for rest time.

Parents and families, please name or label your child's belongings.

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Outdoor Play



Drawing outside☺



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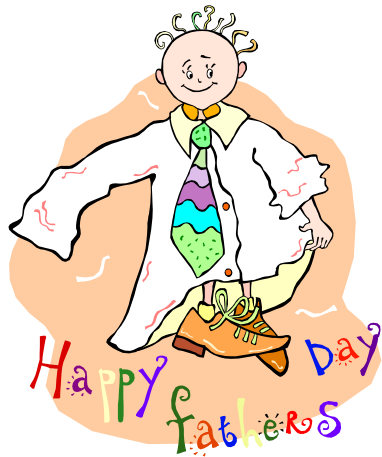
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September Calender of Events

1st – Monday - Wattle Day – Wattle Day is a day of celebration in [New South Wales, Australia](#) of the first day of [spring](#) with the use of [acacias](#), known by the common name "wattle" in Australia.

03rd – Wednesday – National Flag Day.

05th – Friday – Father's Day afternoon tea – Please come and joins us for an afternoon tea at 3.20 pm.



07th – Sunday – Father's Day.

08th – 12/09/14 – Kids Teaching Kids Week.

24th – 26/09/14 – Rosh Hashanah – Jewish tradition, commemorates the creation of the world.

29th – Monday – Family & Community Day (ACT).

29th – 03/10/14 – Navaratri – Hindu – Worship of Durga.



Outdoor play



We water our garden every day.



Outdoor play



"The wheels on the bus go round and round."



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Clownfish News

We want to welcome Abigail and Alex to the Clownfish room! Happy birthday to Leonardo, Leo turned two, and he has now moved to the Jellyfish room.

The Clownfish children have been very busy this month. They have been working on their social skills, learning their shapes, colours and animals. The children are showing great confidence in their independence through activities and self-help (inc feeding). They have also loved working on their language skills.

The Clownfish children have been very busy indoors and outdoors. They enjoy pretending in the home corner, they love listening to the Wiggles and moving to nursery rhymes as well. The children have shown great interest in outdoor play, they love the sand pit and the castle while they are out there.

The Clownfish educators would like to thank parents and families that have brought their families pictures for our family tree.

Until next month,

Clownfish Educators.



We all are playing nicely together.



Group time with Ms Sri.



Building the lego together.

Jellyfish News

Happy birthday to Josslyn, London, Jayden and Leo! And a big welcome to Leo, Josslyn and Anouk!

Miss Alessandra is back from her annual leave and enjoying getting to know the new children and families.

We started the month by continuing on with our numbers learning story (started in July). During the extension of the children's interest in numbers, we counted our steps around the room, counted with our fingers, learnt to count to 5 in French and to 10 in Mandarin and further extended our counting skills by learning to count to 20!



Very good counting Jellyfish!



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Shapes was the next topic of interest. We started it by learning to make shapes through origami with Miss Mamiko (a volunteer student), by taking turns drawing shape on our white board, by drawing our favourite shapes in a big, shared piece of paper, by spotting shapes on each other's clothing and by looking at and talking about shapes' flashcards. Later in the month, Miss Saki (volunteer student) helped the children to further extend their origami making by teaching them how to turn the paper into animals! Another Japanese student, Miss Azusa taught us how to say good morning in Japanese, which now has become part of our multicultural good morning song. The children enjoy saying "Ohayo".



Origami with Miss Mamiko ☺

We had a lot of rain this month and the children started to show an interest towards the rain. They showed enthusiasm about the rain by getting to say "raining" about the daily weather during our weather chart discussions. We extended the rain topic of interest by talking about rain clothes, noticing each other wearing rain clothes, reading books about the rain, talking about how it comes from the sky and forms muddy puddles, and by watching it through our room window.



Jellyfish's circles.

When the weather permitted, the children enjoyed being just amongst themselves (the jellyfish group) during morning outdoor time in our front yard.



Learning about shapes.

Our group times are all about the children and this month they often requested and 'the wheels on the bus' song (an old favourite) and the books Angel baby and Where's the

green sheep. The interest in the sheep book was so strong that we decided to make our own green sheep. They look adorable!

Since most of our friends are new or transitioning from the clownfish room (nursery), Miss Alessandra and the children decided to make new own room rules. They are: 1. Toys are not for eating, they are for playing with. 2. We do not hit/push/hurt anyone, ouch, hitting hurts! 3. Running is for outside, we walk inside to avoid accidents.



Painting time.



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Towards the end of the month, we got to know our friends' favourite stories through our 'My Story' learning story. It was a great time since the jellyfish children just love story time. Thank you to all the children and families who brought in books to share!

Thank you to all the families for returning the topic sheets, and for all the input you share with us! It has been so much fun getting to know more about our friends through the many topics we have discussed so far. We are currently on Topic 14, My Story, until the 5th of September. Please don't forget to check your email for the current topic.

Until next month,
Jellyfish Educator



Birthday party with Ms Sabina.



Look at my pretty dresses!



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Lionfish News

The Lionfish children have had a lot of fun creating all different kinds of things in their arts 'n' crafts sessions this month. They started off the month by painting their family tree, for which they brought in family photos to stick on, and display in our room. They also made snow with the Starfish children during outdoor play at the beginning of the month. They used shaving cream, bi-carb soda and blue sparkles. The children were particularly keen to get involved with this!

In Letterland this month, the children were introduced to the letters 'N, n', 'O, o', and 'P, p'. The children always love hearing about the Letterland



characters and the sorts of things they get up to. Our Letterland sessions are also filled with a number of different activities such as, making diagrams, practicing writing letters, and arts 'n' crafts.

The children were introduced to a new song this month. Its an ABC song, and the children usually ask to sing it after Letterland, or in the morning as part of our daily routine. The children have continued to show their enthusiasm for other songs as



well, such as their Indonesian songs, Australian Anthem



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and other popular children's tunes like 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'. The 'Frozen' songs are also still hugely popular! The children love to dance around to the 'Frozen' soundtrack as well.

During indoor free-play, the children make their own suggestions of things to play with. Their suggestions have generally ranged from Lego and wooden street blocks, to pin boards and the birthday cake this month. The children also had a lot of fun with role-play in August, such as with the doctors instruments, and in the home corner.

Our news topics for this month have included: 'Spring', 'Something I made', 'My favourite restaurant', and 'Something from another country or state'. The children have put a great effort into their news this month, bringing in all sorts of things to show off, drawing pictures in their books, and answering questions with great confidence.

The children's interests have followed all sorts of topics. For one, the children have showed great interest in recycling. To extend this interest, we have read



books with them on the subject, and also researched the importance of recycling, and saving water/electricity. The children even made their own things out of the recycled materials that we had collected in our room.

The children have also showed great interest in dinosaurs this month too. They have asked for the Dinosaur book in our room to be read out-loud many times, and love to look at the pictures in it in their own free time. The children have even become very good at naming the different kinds of Dinosaurs, such as the 'Stegosaurus' and 'Triceratops'.



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They even made their own Dinosaurs out of paper plates and pre-prepared spikes, legs/arms, and eyes.

The children also extended their knowledge of shapes this month. They were able to name some they already knew, such as the triangle, oval, square, circle, rectangle... but were also reminded of some trickier ones such as, the hexagon, semi circle and pentagon. The children also practiced tracing their shapes on the new shapes and number mats made for them.

We went to welcome our newest members to the Lionfish room, Olivia, Ethan and Abigail. They have fit into our group nicely, and made lots of new friends this month. We are very happy to have them with us!

Until next time,

Lionfish Educators



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Starfish News

Hello everyone! I can't believe how quickly this month has flown by. First of all we would like to wish a big happy birthday to Caleb and Summer who both turned 4 this month! We would also like to welcome our new friends Charlize and Leikota to the Starfish room. We hope both girls settle in well and enjoy their time with us. We would also like to welcome to the Starfish room a new helper, Miss Yuki. Miss Yuki will be with us from September 1st through to October 10th on a work placement, working Monday and Tuesdays. We are very excited to work with Miss Yuki, and hope she enjoys her time here. On a sad note, we would like to say good-bye to Ruby Lin. Ruby is returning to America to live. It was wonderful having Ruby here, and she will be greatly missed by everyone in the Starfish room.

Next month is the start of spring, which means our year is almost over! I can't believe how quickly time is flying by. The Starfish children are beginning to prepare for the end of year concert that will be held in December. We have picked our songs (as I'm sure you have heard), and are starting to work on our actions to the songs. As December approaches, we will keep families updated on any costume ideas or props required.

This month in the Starfish room the children have been interested in pirates, which has then evolved into an interest in the ocean as a whole. The children have loved learning some pirate themed songs, making treasure chests and going on numerous treasure hunts. From there the children moved on to exploring the ocean, and discovering all the different fish and animals that call the ocean home. The children have decided that they will create a large underwater themed picture, that will slowly grow as the children learn about the ocean. A special mention to Kailea and Ryan A whose news items (Something I made) sparked this interest.

This month in Letterland the children have been looking at



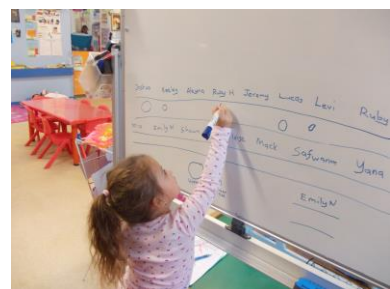
News time with Miss Juliet.



Making the snow.



Making the snow.



Learning letter 'o'.



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the letters O (Oscar Orange) and P (Peter Puppy). The children have been practicing writing the uppercase and lowercase letters, as well as practicing the sounds the letters make. Each month the children do a wonderful job at brainstorming a wide range of words that start with the focus letters. Every month the children seem to pull out more impressive words!

Towards the end of this month the Starfish room was very lucky to have a special visitor from Japan. Miss Azuza spent two weeks here in the Starfish room as a helper. She bonded well with the children, and the children loved having a new person to play with. While here Miss Azuza was kind enough to share some of her culture with the children. Miss Azuza taught the children how to create cats and dogs using the paper art form origami. The children did an amazing job at folding the paper, and talking about the shapes they could create. Miss Azuza also taught the children the words and actions to the song "Under the Chestnut Tree". Finally the children were invited to learn the Japanese version of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star". The Japanese version is called "Kira Kira", and was a little tricky for the children to learn. But everyone gave it their best shot and sounded beautiful singing all together. We are sad to see Miss Azuza go, and wish her all the best in all her future endeavors.

We want to say a huge thank you to all of the families that have donated recycled resources to the centre for our use. At the moment we have more than enough, so we would like to ask families to temporarily stop with the donations. We will let you know when we require anything else (which I'm sure will be sooner rather than later). If you come across anything you think might be useful for us, please don't hesitate to mention it to one of our Educators, and we will let you know if we have a need for it.

Families, please remember that children are still required to bring a bag with them every day (where possible), that has a change of clothes, a hat, water bottle and sheets (2 sheets preferable). This helps to promote a sense of belonging and responsibility for the children. Furthermore,



Painting our treasure boxes.



I know my alphabets.



Origami with Miss Azuza.



Bye bye Miss Azuza, we will miss you.



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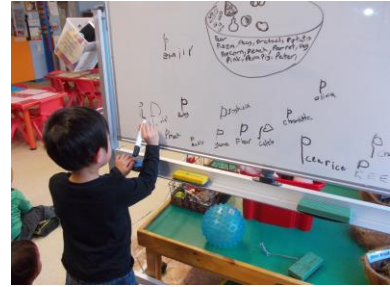
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please remind children that any toys brought from home are not to be played with while here at the centre. This prevents the toys from being broken, lost or damaged, something we definitely don't want to happen. Families, please also ensure that anything brought to the centre is appropriate; if it is particularly valuable, precious or small then it is probably best left at home. Lastly the News topics are emailed out to families every month. If you do not receive the email, please inform one of the educators and we will either forward you the email again, or get a hard copy to you as soon as possible. If your child requires a new book, please let us know and we will provide you with a new one. We will never push a child to participate in our news program, however, if families know there is something very special to share, inform the educators or record it on a parent input form so we can remind the children.

We hope everyone has a great start to spring! Until next month, all the best from everyone here in the Starfish room.

The Starfish Educators.



Learning the letter 'p'.