

NEWSLETTER

Week 6, Term 3, 2023

Research Inquiry & Project Learning

This term we are taking an in depth look at the kindy garden as spring takes hold, observing changes that occur in the plants as they grow and as we investigate them closer. Not only will we be using garden produce in our cooking we will also be exploring plant properties to discover what other purposes they can be used for.

So far this term we have been exploring different herbs, spices fruits and vegetables through new experiences. The children have used mortar and pestles to crush, pound and grind the different plants igniting their curiosity and sparking their senses.

They have compared the veins on their bodies to veins in leaves, using different creative techniques to investigate structures, shapes, colours, tastes and aromas. We are looking forward to seeing where the children's interests lead us as they continue their learning journey of research, inquiry and exploration.

Studies have shown that children who actively participate in and lead their own learning gain deeper meaning and understanding of the world around them. The project approach provides opportunities for children to take agency of their own learning and represent this through the construction of personally meaningful artefacts.

See photos attached on back page

Kindy Uniforms
Cultural shirts - \$40
T-shirts and skorts - \$12
Jumpers - \$20

Please speak to a kindy staff member to purchase.



Early Years SA app

Parents and carers are their children's first teachers and the Early Years SA app will provide them with the tools and information they need during the first five years of their children's lives.



This is when their social and emotional, physical, language and cognitive development is at its most rapid.

The Early Years SA app will:

- Provide automated, age-specific notifications for families to remind them about child health and development checks, immunisations, dental checks and preschool and school enrolment.
- Provide easier access to information about resources and services available to South Australian families (such as Child and Family Health Services, Parenting SA resources, learning and play activities, family wellbeing and mental health services).
- Give parents and families practical tips and strategies to engage with children, including information on sleep, nutrition and family life and care.

Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play



Have you checked out our website yet?
www.flinderscc.sa.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide!



As the sun shines brighter and the temperature rises, we would like to take a moment to remind you about the importance of sun protection and share the preschool Sun Smart policy.

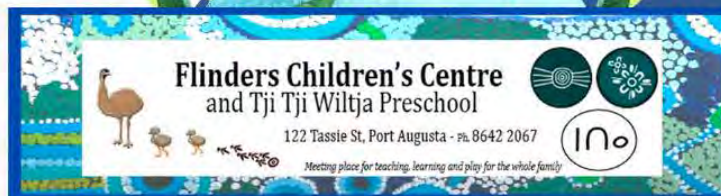
Too much of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. It is also one of the most preventable cancers.

We encourage families to apply SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen prior to children leaving home each day. At kindy, we will encourage children to have healthy sun protection behaviour. Please refer to Sun Smart Policy attached to the Newsletter for further information.



As the nice weather is right around the corner, we would like to provide a water play experience for children. Water play offers a myriad of learning opportunities, mathematics and science, to name a few! We kindly ask families to pack a spare change of clothes in your child's kindy bag, in case they get wet or muddy.

Please ensure there are spare socks and undies as well.



TERM 3 FEES

Prompt payment is required as your child's kindy fees are a crucial contribution to our nutrition plan, the availability of our kindy bus and also the learning resources required. Our nutritional program for term 4 is currently at risk due to a larger than normal amount of outstanding fees.

Payment plans can be arranged by speaking to Deidre

Fees can be paid via the bank account provided below:

Account Name:
Flinders Children's Centre.

BSB: 735-065
ACC: 07-0373

You MUST include your
child's name as the
reference

NEWSLETTER

What Does Literacy Look Like in Early Childhood?



Literacy: what is it and why is it important?

Literacy is being able to read, write, listen, speak and create texts in ways that allow us to communicate well with others.

Literacy is the foundation for doing well at school, socialising with others, problem-solving, making decisions, developing independence, managing money and working.

Literacy development is vital to overall development for children.

Literacy development in childhood

Before children can learn to read and write, they need to develop the building blocks for literacy – the ability to speak, listen, understand, watch and draw.

And as children get older, they need to learn about the connection between letters on a page and spoken sounds.

For this to happen, children need plenty of experience with:

- pictures and objects – how you can use words to talk about them
- letters and words – how they look and sound, and what they're called
- sounds – how words can rhyme, begin and end with the same letters, be broken up into parts like syllables, be formed by blending different sounds and so on.

You can help with all these areas of your child's early literacy development by:

- **talking and communicating with your child**
- **reading books together**
- **playing with rhyme and other sounds with your child.**

And the great news is that you can do this in ways that are fun for both of you.

For more information, scan the QR code below that takes you to the raisingchildren.net.au.

Also, please see the 'Food for Thought' activity on page 5 to get inspiration on involving your child in everyday conversation!



We URGE you to KEEP your children HOME if they are UNWELL.



There has been a few gastro cases and flu going around at the moment. It is important for you to **keep your child home if they are displaying any cold, flu or gastro like symptoms (including coughing & runny nose).** This protects everyone from becoming sick and ensures that our staff remain healthy and able to work.

Be sure to spread the word about Port Augusta's newest playgroup to all your family and friends. This week we will be making fresh orange juice, singing and sharing planned and unplanned activities.

FLINDERS CHILDREN'S CENTRE PLAYGROUP

AGES 0 - 3 YEARS

10am - 12:00pm
Every Friday

No playgroup in school holidays

Healthy snack
will be provided
for children

Tea and coffee
available for adult



GOLD COIN
ENTRY

122 TASSIE STREET
SEE YOU THERE





Food for Thought



Ways to focus on food at home
to help develop your child's language skills

1. Include your child in making a shopping list (e.g. "*How many apples are in the basket?*", "*We need eggs*").
2. Make a shopping list of items that you need using pictures that you have cut out from catalogues. Your child could have 4 or 5 pictures on their list and then try to help you find them at the shop.
3. Include your child in collecting items when grocery shopping (e.g. "*Can you see the peas?*", "*Let's get 6 bananas, 1-2-3-4-5-6*").
4. When you get the groceries home, your child could help you sort out where the food goes (e.g. "*Does the cheese go in the fridge or in the cupboard?*").
5. When cooking, talk to your child about what you are doing (e.g. "*I'm cracking the egg, now I'm stirring the cake mixture*").
6. You could also ask your child to help you collect all the ingredients (e.g. "*We need carrots, potatoes and peas*").
7. Include your child in making up their kindy lunchbox (e.g. "*What shall we put in your lunchbox today?*", "*Would you like an apple or a banana?*").

Most of all, remember to have fun!!



Chaya Higgins (2006) Speech Pathologist
DECS Kumangka Para District, SA





Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja Preschool

122 Tassie St, Port Augusta - Ph. 8642 2067

Meeting place for teaching, learning and play for the whole family



Sun Smart Policy

Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja recognises the importance of protecting the skin as a major strategy in the fight against skin cancer. We are particularly fortunate to have a play area that has great shade provision. Our hot weather policy is that the children are to stay inside if the temperature that day is 36 degrees or over.

Aims

Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja Preschool Sun smart Policy aims to promote among children, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practises which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and related deaths.
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- To maintain the safety and health of children in relation to the danger of exposure to the sun.
- To maintain and increase the knowledge regarding sun exposure dangers
- To prevent sunburn and over- exposure to Ultra Violet Radiation.

Plan/Actions:

All members of the Flinders Children's Centre and Tji Tji Wiltja Community, (children, staff and parents) will be encouraged to use the following skin protection strategies.

Sun protection measures are used for terms one and four.

1. No hat, No Play in term one and four
2. Wear appropriate clothing which protects the skin.
 - Wear hats at all times whilst outdoors, style must cover neck, ears, and most of their face.
 - Hats must not have cords, if so the cord needs to be removed. Hat style must be legionnaire or bucket.
 - Children and staff are encouraged to wear shirts/ tops that cover shoulders.
 - Encourage families to apply SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen prior to children leaving home each day.
4. During Term 2 and Term 3 children will not be expected to wear a hat unless ultra violet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above.

Implementation

- Staff will update information regarding danger of sun exposure through staff enrolment. Newsletters and notice boards.
- Educators to avoid children playing in direct sun by setting up activities in shaded areas.
- Educators/ staff to role model sun protective behaviours at all times: wearing a hat, covered shoulders, sunglasses and sunscreen.
- To check the UV Rating go to the website <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/uv> or to find out what the UV level is in real time go to www.arpansa.gov.au/uvindex/realtimes/aus_rt.htm
- Ask students if they want to apply sunscreen. If, for medical or other reasons a family requests not to let their child put sun screen on then the centre will obtain this in writing.
- Educators/ staff to structure outdoor play activities prior to 10:30am on days where temperatures are over 36 degrees.
- Educators/ staff to encourage children to play in shaded areas.
- Staff will explain to children regarding the need to use hats, sunscreen etc.
- Children who need to avoid outdoor play due to medical reasons will have indoor play organised for them.

Review Date: August 2024

Learning about skin protection

- Staff will model appropriate Sun smart strategies at all times.
- Information regarding sun protection will regularly be a newsletter item.
- Skin cancer prevention will be a part of our learning curriculum.
- Information and resources will be kept up to date through contact with the Cancer Council.

This policy is in line with the ACECQA regulations (NQS 2.3 regulation 168 (2) a, ii and related key regulation 114 and DECD policy.

Created: January 2013

Reviewed Date: August 2023

Review Date: August 2024

Approved by Governing Council:

Chairperson

August 2024

Review Date: August 2024

