

Tanah Merah Child Care Centre

Issue March/April 2011

From the office

Hi Everyone,

We have some very exciting news to share—we are going online—yes we are getting a website for the centre. It is in the process of being made and will be up running very soon. With the website up and running it will give prospective families a chance to see what we offer and it will give current families to opportunity to view the current newsletter, calendar of events as well as the childrens art gallery. I will advise you all of the webpage once it is up and running.

Child Care Rebate

On July 4th 2011, centrelink will have 2 extra options for you to choose how you receive your child care rebate (CCR). The options are to receive your rebate annually, quarterly, weekly/fortnightly or to have it paid directly to the child care centre. Once you have chosen your option, you will not

be able to change this option until the following financial year. Remember that if you choose the centre option this will benefit you weekly as you child care fees will be reduced by the 50% rebate up to the maximum amount per child. Currently this amount is \$7000 per child per financial year.

Upcoming events:

- 22nd April—Good Friday (Centre Closed)
- 25th April—ANZAC Day (Centre Closed)
- 26th April—Easter Monday (Centre Closed)
- 2nd May—Labour Day (Centre Closed)
- 6th May—Mothers Day Morning Tea 9.30am
- 10th May—Magic Mike Show 9.30am

19th May—Centre Photos

Staff Holidays:

- Miss Shelley—22nd March
- Miss Maria—8th-11th April
- Miss Kelley 11th-15th April
- Miss Michelle—18th-21st April
- Miss Tjepa 27th April—6th May

Keri



Please phone the centre to inform of your child's absence.

Child Restraints and the child restraint laws

From 11 March 2010, all children up to seven years of age must be secured in a child restraint. A child may stop using a child restraint once they turn seven years of age or their eye level is above the back of the booster seat.

The child restraint must be an approved child restraint that complies with Australian Standards (AS1754 or AS/NZS1754). An approved child restraint will display an Australian Standards tick logo.

The following table is a guide for parents and carers to selecting a suitable child restraint.

Age	Indicative weight	Child restraint
0 to 6 months	Less than 8 kgs	Rearward facing baby capsule or infant restraint
6 months to 1 year	8 to 12 kgs	Rearward or forward facing infant restraint
6 months to 4 years	8 to 18 kgs	Forward facing child restraint with built-in harness
4 years to 7 years	14 to 26 kgs	Booster with H-harness or a booster seat with a secured adult seatbelt.

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Special Points of Interest:



Quote of the Day

“Be the change that you want to see in the world”

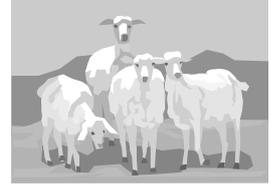
Mahatma Gandhi

From the Toddlers Room

What a busy few months we have had. Our little people are beginning to grow and become very independent, and I must say it's great to watch them develop and grow and form friendships at such an early age.

While the children have engaged in their own interest, I am able to work with them and extend on many of their developmental areas; such as language, sharing, self-help skills and fine and gross motor development.

Some of our activities and interests have been: animals, puzzles, the ocean, healthy foods, singing, slide stories, hand puppets, art and craft—playdough and creating our nature wall which was lots of fun.



Please name all of your child's belongings. There are baskets with your child's name on it, so you may place your child's bottles, and/or dummies in here. The baskets are located just above the lockers on a shelf. Please place your child's bag in it's locker space—there is a locker chart on the window near the lockers.

If you have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to see me as I am available to talk to you at any time.

Miss Lynn and Miss Shelley

From the Junior Kindy Room

So far this year has been great, with the room changes happening as well as the room assistant changing in January. The children who have moved up from the toddler room have settled into the Junior Kindy room and have adapted well with the room routine, meal times and rest time etc.

The room is looking amazing thanks to the room assistant (Miss Kelley), who has been doing an awesome job we are looking forward to what lies ahead for us in the Junior Kindy Room.

I hope that you are all spending time to read "Our Daily Reflections" which is located in the whiteboard near the lockers when you come to collect your child. I hope you are all enjoying the stories that involve your child and their learning throughout the day as much as we enjoy watching your children play out these stories.

Please don't hesitate to talk to either one of us if you have any questions or concerns.

Miss Maylynn and Miss Kelley



From the Early Years Room

During the past few months we have been focusing on the holistic development of your child. This means that we are looking at their whole development—is your child at the same level of development across all areas of development. We have also been welcoming our new friends into our class.

- **Language and Literacy**—We learned about numbers and we listened to our peers show and tell as well as the news that they wish to share with us all—By sharing news and show and tell it is allowing the children to explore oral language as well as building their self confidence by talking in front of a group.
- **Social and Emotional**—We discussed the different roles of people as well as what language to use to get what they want—this encourages children to share and take turns. The children also have played a lot in home corner and have taken on the role of junior master chefs—it is very cute to watch and see them all playing different roles in the kitchen.
- **Health and Physical Understanding**—we have been practising skipping to encourage the children to listen and follow directions as well as developing our locomotive skills by jumping, running, hopping etc



Please feel free to talk to me about your child's needs or developmental requests.

Miss Tepa and Miss Jasmin

Pre Prep News

Welcome to our new families. What a positive month, we have learnt so much. We have visited Japan, ate fried rice with chopsticks (What a challenge that was....). We discussed our different colour crabs at the beach, investigated our 'fish', our body and bones, skin and brains.

Our photos are so interesting. The children love looking at themselves with different coloured hair, eyes and skin (How different are we.....?)

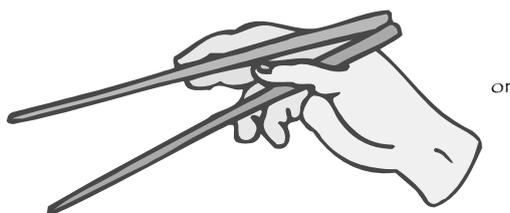
We use name recognition and phonics throughout our day and the children are picking up letters and asking "What does it say 'S' for star, 'F' for fish". When you are with your children you can extend on the sounds when you are out and about even at home. State "the sound of the word" is for "name of the word". You will be surprised at how quickly your child will soon say it without prompting from you.

We will continue to follow children's interests, where we visit is anyone's guess. Maybe we will visit the moon.

We have a world vision child that the centre sponsors and her picture is in the room. We are learning about the way she lives, where she lives, what she eats and by doing this we have learnt about respecting what we eat!

Your child's profile is located on top of the lockers, please feel free to peruse through them at any time. If you have any questions, please feel free to approach me at any time.

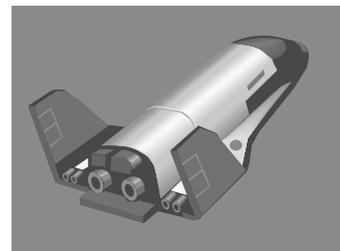
Miss Michelle, Miss Keri and Miss Erin



Schoolies News

We have been working hard at getting the children to start their homework and with some of them completing the homework while at afterschool care. If you are requiring your child to do their homework whilst in care, please let me know.

The children have been enjoying arts and crafts in the afternoons - letting our creations take on a life of their own. After one afternoon talking about the last Discovery Voyage to the International Space Station, we have been building rockets and space stations. We even have the solar system under construction at the moment, hopefully this will be hanging in the hallway for you all to see in the coming weeks.



If you have any empty boxes, scrap material or bit and pieces that could be used in our art, we would be grateful if you could bring them.

Thank you, Miss Deyell and Miss Maria

Policy Update News

We are currently reviewing the Sun Protection Policy.

As we review this policy, a selection of parents will be chosen to review a policy and give your feedback. A copy of the policy, up for review, will be placed in your child's pocket for you to read and write your opinions, views and whether you agree with the policy. If you could please hand back your feedback sheet as soon as possible, this would be a great help for us to be able to get the updated policy into our policy and procedure manual.