



AWCC NEWSLETTER

THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
FOR OUR FAMILIES & COMMUNITY



Director's News

by Tamara Fallon

Hello AWCC families,

With 2021 coming to an end and the holiday season so very near, this will be our final newsletter of the year.

A reminder for you to check your child's enrolment days for 2022. They will be displayed shortly in the hall at the entrance. Please note there will be two rolls. One is from our first day of the year, which is Wednesday 5th January and the other is from the week beginning 24th January. Please look at both and make sure you are clear on when and if any changes in your child's attendance will occur. If you have any questions relating to the rolls, Nikki or I would be happy to help you out.

In the newsletter you will see that a daily fee increase will occur from 5th January 2022. This year's Parent Management Committee has decided to increase the fees \$1 each day (under 2) and \$3 each day (over 2). This is our annual increase to account for rising expenses.



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Important Dates:

- **Thursday 2nd December at 10.30am - Kindergarten end of year celebrations.**
- **Friday 3rd December at 10 am- Junior Kindy Christmas concert and a visit from Santa.**
- **Wednesday 15th December at 10 am - Renata's Christmas Show.**
- **Thursday 23rd December - Centre's last day before Christmas closure.**
- **Wednesday 5th January 2022 - Centre reopens for New year.**

OWNA

We are currently in the process of switching over our software to a specialised Childcare App called OWNA. This means that most of our documentation and paperwork will now become cloud based. In the coming weeks, parents will be sent an invitation via email to join Albert Waterways online portal. This App will allow parents better access to their child's portfolio, and will contain a feed (much like our private AWCC Family Space Facebook Group) where educators will post our daily program. Nikki and I have been working tirelessly to upload data and ensure the transition runs as smoothly as possible. We look forward to you joining us on the platform.

Survey

I would like to thank all families who participated in our annual Survey. The results have been positive, and we are touched by the beautiful comments made by many. I would like to remind you that my door is always open and I am happy to receive feedback (positive or negative) personally throughout the year. If you would like to have a meeting with your child's educator to discuss progress, please request a time.

End of Year Christmas Concerts

Our End of Year concerts are running over two days at the Centre in the Kindergarten yard. Kindergarten's is Thursday 2nd Dec at 10.30 am and Junior Kindy's is Friday 3rd December at 10am.

Director's News..cont.

Please note, we still need some families to RSVP asap. Each child is allowed two family members only and each person will need to QR check in on entry, so that we have a COVID register for the event. All families are encouraged to attend, even if it is not your child's regular Kindy day.

The children have been practicing very hard on their performance and the concerts are going to be fantastic. So, if you can make it, we will look forward to seeing you. BYO Picnic, drink bottle and hat - This year we will be celebrating with an individual family picnic lunch. Please remember our NO NUT policy when packing your picnic.

Parking for Christmas Concert:

Please be aware that the parking in front of the Centre is only 15 minutes, so we ask that you park in Pacific Fair on the day and walk over the road. Please remember to add some additional time for this.

Our big fella in red:

This year our Santa is visiting us on the Junior Kindy Concert day - Friday 3rd Dec. Any Kindergarten children who do not attend on Friday's, you are welcome to come along at 10.30 am to receive your gift from Santa.

Thank you's

Some great big THANK YOU'S go out to Uncle Allan, our favourite Aboriginal elder; Nathan our favourite Yogi; and Miss Alana, our famous artist in residence. We have had a ball learning and playing with you all throughout the year and look forward to lots more fun in 2022. A HUGE thank-you goes out to our super awesome volunteer, Maureen, for all that she does for the Centre. We look forward to welcoming her back next year. You're an absolute gem, Maureen!

To all 18 dedicated Educators at AWCC, a huge thank you for yet another awesome year! You all bring something unique and beautiful to the centre. The children, families and management are so fortunate to work and play alongside you. It is certainly our wonderful Educators that 'make the place'!

Good byes

Shortly we will be saying some sad goodbyes to families that have been with us for a long time now. We will also be sending off our big Kindergarten children to Prep as they continue their educational journey. We thank all our families for being a part of our community and we hope that you and your children will look back on your time here at Albert Waterways with fond memories.

For those families who are returning in the New Year, please have a safe happy holiday and we will see you nice and refreshed in January.

For me it has been a brilliant year, being appointed as the centre director and working alongside the wonderful children, families, committee, and staff. I am truly blessed to be a part of such an amazing Children's Centre - my very own AWCC family! I hope you have a lovely holiday break and wishing you a very Merry Christmas! Tamara



Happy & Healthy Hints from the AWCC Kitchen

This month's recipe is a yummy Savoury muffin. It tastes fabulous! It is:

ZUCCHINI AND CORN MUFFINS

- 150g butter melted
- 4 cups SR flour
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ cups milk
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 2 zucchinis grated
- 1 tin corn kernels Optional – feta cheese

Mix all ingredients together well. Put mixture into well-greased mini muffin pans. Cook for 20 minutes at 180 degrees Celsius.

Parent Management Committee News:

The Parent Management Committee is looking for new members in 2022! Some of our Committee member's children are leaving the Centre and heading off to school, therefore leaving us with roles to fill. Please consider joining the Committee in 2022.

Annual Fee Increase

Our annual Centre fees will increase to:
\$110.00 per day for children enrolled in an under 2 years placement,
\$105.00 per day for children enrolled in an above 2 years placement
This will commence on Monday 3rd January 2022

Thanks - The Parent Management Committee

Junior Kindy Update

Hello families, we are so excited, it's nearly Christmas. We are looking so forward to sharing our end of year Christmas concert performance with you all. Please don't forget to put the date on your calendar. We have some wonderful songs and the big man himself, Santa, will be our special guest. Tamara has sent out emails to each family with dates and times and relevant information for the day. Hope to see you all here.

Important notes: Please remember to check your child's wet bag daily to remove wet and soiled items. Please ensure your child has enough underwear, nappies, and spare clothes for regular changing; enough for the number of days your child attends.

Halloween went super well this year. Everyone wore their favourite dress ups, and we had some fun games and activities. How Spectacular and spooky was the entry way? Our beautiful friend Marissa is so talented and creative with play spaces and decorative designs. We are so grateful she could share her ideas and help bring it all together. Once again Trick or treat went well with some scrumptious goodies to eat. Yummy!!!

During November we were very lucky to have the wonderful Wild Rangers show visit us. Dionne introduced a range of native Australian animals to the children including a large snake, turtle, lizards, possum, and a very noisy kookaburra with a very loud laugh. The children enjoyed seeing the animals up close and feeling their different skin textures. Most of the children were willing to have a pat, while others were happy to view from a little distance. We learnt about the animal's habitat, feeding behaviours, body anatomy and Dionne explained about camouflage. The kookaburra was definitely the highlight of the day with that ever so funny laugh. The children had fun interacting with the animals and learning all about them.

On Thursday the 28th of October we had another exciting visit from Ranu as we continue to learn more about the Torres Strait Islander culture. This visit included learning the flag symbol significance and Ranu showed us some traditional jewellery and headdresses unique to her culture. We were lucky enough to explore some wonderful grass skirts and Ranu showed the children how to make their very own grass skirts. This was a wonderful, hands-on experience for the children to learn. Ranu's visits will be ongoing as we explore more about this very exiting culture and embed it into our daily program.

As this is the final room report for 2021, Junior Kindy Educators would like to thank all of our families for another fabulous year. We are so proud of each and every one of our children and are super happy to be a part in their learning journey. To the families moving up to the kindergarten room next year, we wish you and your child the very best as the next chapter in your child's lives begin. Please remember you are welcome to visit us anytime, the Junior Kindy door is always open.

Thank you for reading.

**Our January 2022 Free Choice Friday Charity is:
The Epilepsy Foundation, which is a charity
close to Karen's heart. Please give generously.
Last month, educators raised over \$50 for
Tamara's charity, The Heart Foundation.**

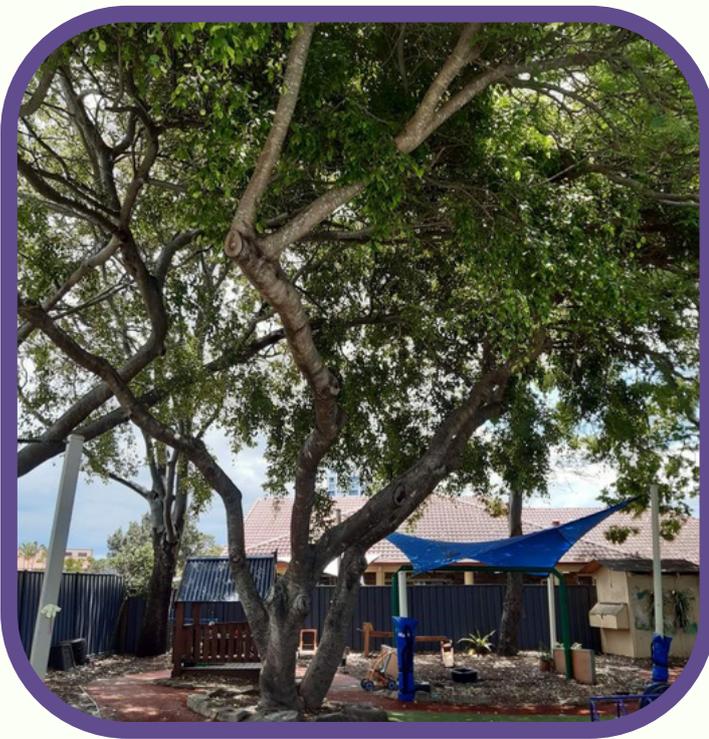


words from our
little people

TAYLOR A (4 YEARS OLD)

"It's my birthday....
And I'm Forty
Four!"





Kindergarten Update

Hello kindergarten families,

Our End of year Christmas Concert is fast approaching, and the kindergarten children have been practicing very hard with our new songs that we will be performing. We hope that you can make it!!!

Throughout the month, the children have also been expanding their literacy and numeracy knowledge. During collaborative group time we revised the letters learnt, practicing the sound, and brainstorming familiar words beginning with the letter of the week. What fun was making "pizza" enjoying healthy "popcorn" made with a special machine, on the week "P"!

This month we had an awesome show, Dionne from Wild Rangers come in a show us some of her amazing animals and reptiles. The children learnt some interesting facts about these animals, their living conditions, the dangers, what they eat and how they survive in the wild. Dionne brought in a kookaburra with a very loud laugh; a curly tailed possum, Shelly the Turtle, a baby crocodile, a sugar glider and a couple of her friendly lizards named Pineapple and Bubble-gum, and for the final surprise a very large python. How lucky are our children to have this opportunity to experience such closeup encounters with such exquisite Australian creatures!

A new home corner has been set up in the room, "Supermarket at Kindy" or "Smart shop". This area was planned according to the last children's interest observed. Children love to imitate all the things we adults 'get' to do! Going to the shop is no exception! When children play in a pretend grocery store, they can learn about people, jobs, and places in the community. They also explore concepts of literacy and math by playing with 'toy money', counting the products, discovering different categories in the shop, etc.

Collaboration needed!!

We need your help, by way of donation to make the project a success! If you would like to help us, please collect, and collaborate with any of the following items:

-Packaging boxes of food: cookies, crackers, sugar, coffee, pasta, etc.

Thank you very much!

Kindergarten staff.



✧ Merry ✧
Christmas