



# GUMNUTS

Early Learning Centre

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2011

### News From The Director

Hi Everyone,  
March is almost done and dusted can you believe it. A big thank you to the parents that nominated for our committee, the AGM is this Wednesday 23rd March for anyone interested in coming along this is when a new committee is voted in.

Thanks also to all of the families that participated in our family portrait fund raiser remember your photos will be here on Thursday 31st March.

This year we are running a footy tipping comp if you are interested please let myself or a staff member know the cost

is \$10 with a cash prize for 1st 2nd and 3rd all depending on how many enter.

If you would like or know of anyone who would we have a few vacancies left to find out when they are please ask a staff member.

#### EASTER RAFFLE

Drawn Wednesday 20th April

Remember to bring your egg, there will be more raffle tickets available if you require more.

With all of the natural disasters that have occurred lately there is some useful info to read if you need at the link listed below.

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/emergencies/default.htm](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/emergencies/default.htm)

Until Niagara falls.  
Brendon.



**GO INTO THE DRAW TO WIN THIS 32" LCD TV SIMPLY BY PLACING AN ORDER FOR OUR HOT CROSS BUNS**

Orders are due back by Friday 8th and will be ready to be picked up on Wednesday 20th.

### News From The Wombats Room

Hello everyone,

What wonderful weather and because of this we have had lots of outside play. The children are exploring the sandpit, our climbing frame and new plank as a slide.

The new children are settling in well and we are really getting to know the children, their likes and dislikes and routines. Lots of children are reaching milestones and it is very exciting for us to see.

Evie and I have been busy preparing for grandparents week which will run from **Tuesday 15th to Friday the 18th of March..**

Dress ups have been very popular and we have been doing lots of dancing and singing. This has then flowed into our teddy bear songs with actions.

We had a week with of everyone bringing there teddy's and we sat on a picnic rug and had teddy bear biscuits to eat.

We also had our first cooking experience. We made cup cakes and then enjoyed extending the experience to the sandpit and cooking table outside. The children enjoyed scooping sand and placing them into the patty tins.

Daving and Evie

#### QUOTE THE MONTH:

A parent is someone who carries pictures where their money used to be.

**Pandaol Policy:** If the child requires Panadol or any other form of paracetamol throughout the day, they will be considered to be of ill health and will not be able to attend.



## News From The Koala's Room

Hello to all families in the Koalas room,

What a busy month we have had exploring a range of different things. In the Art and craft area we have the children have participated in pasting at the table using a variety of different materials such as patty pans, glitter, confetti etc. This has proved to be very messy but lots of fun and most of the children loved it. As well as pasting we have done easel painting, stamp painting and lots more.

As a textural experience we have been exploring play dough which has been a first for some children. The children had the opportunity to squeeze the dough through their fingers, poke with their fingers, even some children rolled big

long sausages using their fantastic fine motor skills. For a added experiences the children used dinosaurs in the dough to encourage communication and language development.

As some days have been a bit wet together we made a cubby inside using a big net where we played peek a boo and other fun games. This area has been great for children to lay if feeling sad or even just to have a quick rest. We even had morning tea under our cubby which was so much fun.

To celebrate shrove Tuesday or Pancake day as we all now it we made banana pancakes for morning tea. They were yummy and the children had fun whipping up a storm in our home corner kitchen through the month as well.

As lots of parents have recently had babies we will be having a new baby come in to have a bath named Isla. Isla is Lola's cousin and Lola very excited to show all her friends her new cousin.

Don't forget Grandparents week from the 15<sup>th</sup> of march till the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. All grandparents are welcome to come for morning tea between 10 and 11 am throughout the week when their grandchild is in care.

Reminders:

-Bulb forms due 11<sup>th</sup> of March so please hurry to place your orders to raise money for our room.

-Please pack sheets, a drink bottle and a hat for your child.

Until next time

Sarah, Nicola, Kim and Kaye

## News From The Possum's Room

Hello Everyone,

We have been having a great time in the Possum's Room!

We celebrated Chinese New Year by making our very own Chinese Dragon out of egg cartons, streamers and our handprints. It is hanging from the roof in our room, have a look next time you're in! We also made fried rice that we had with our lunch, it was delicious!

We have also celebrated some more birthdays, Nicholas had a Spiderman cake and Keira had a pretty flower cake. Happy Birthday Nicholas and Keira.

For Valentines Day we made a big heart painting together, we hung it on our wall and were very proud of our masterpiece.

We also made some yummy heart shaped biscuits that we

decorated all by ourselves, it was a great opportunity to practice our fine motor skills. Judd's baby brother Ace came in for a bath which everyone enjoyed. We were all very quiet and gentle because Ace slept throughout the whole experience. Thank you to Judd's Mum, Kelly for bringing Ace in.

In the room we have been practising our role playing with finger puppets and felt stories. We were even lucky enough to have the 3 Little Pigs performed for us by Raquel, Noeleen, Jaimie and Brendon! We are going to continue this as the children (and the Staff) all really enjoyed it!

Remember, if you would like to see your child's portfolio

please see staff in the room. In the foyer there are sheets to fill out about your weekend or holidays, these also go into your child's portfolio. Not only do these help us program and organise activities for the room but they will be special for your and your child to look back on at the end of the year.

Cheerio,

Raquel, Noeleen and Jaime



## News From The Wallabies Room

Hi Wallabies Families,

We have had a wonderful time getting to know you all over the past month and are enjoying our time spent with the children in the room.

We have been very busy this month discovering dinosaurs. We have stomped to the Prehistoric Stomp, flapped like Pterodactyls, roared like Tyrannosaurus Rex, and gnashed our teeth like Diplodocus. We have also been playing with dinosaur puppets and have had lots of dinosaur books brought in for us to read (thank you lots mums and dads for that). Lots of fun was had with the dinosaur box construction and a big thank you to all of you who continue to donate boxes and unwanted toys to us to use we really appreciate it.

We have been enjoying cups of tea and cupcakes made by the children in the tea party area and the soft toys have as well.

Our large crying baby doll has had a wonderful time being fed and cuddled in the home corner and all of the children have become great carers with the dolls and each other, learning about our feelings, those of others and how to deal with them.

Stamp and car painting has had a good response with lots of group and individual painting happening in the

room, the children really seem to enjoy expressing themselves this way so we will be sure to continue this.

Bye for now,

Tracey, Kelly and Ashlea

### Reminders to parents

\*To apply sunscreen to your child before you leave, even if the weather looks bad your child can still get burnt.

\*Please take home your child's drink bottles and any other belongings at the end of the day.

**If you are unable to find your child's belongings please check the lost property in the family room**



## News From The Emu's Room

Hi everybody,

We have had a very busy month, The **Playschool Concert** was enjoyed by all, the children danced and sang along with Abby and Alex, the playschool presenters and cheered for their favourites such as Humpty, Big Ted and Jamima.

We had a visit from Kathy and Joshua (dog), from the responsible pet ownership program, which is a Victorian Government initiative. We have included the lessons in our program, we have also linked this to learning about being responsible with our other pets.

We made a 'Gordon's biscuit' after reading a book about a dog who loved biscuits, his friends all contributed to making him a special biscuit to cheer him up as he was sad because dogs are banned from playing in the park. This linked to our unit on being a 'friend'.

On **Pancake Day** we enjoyed our yummy pancakes after lunch as we had Gym. in the morning, it was a very busy day!!

On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> we had **Crazy Hair Day**, there were a lot of crazy hair dos and colours, great job everyone! The leukaemia Foundation will be very grateful for the support.

It was great to see grandparents enjoy-

ing some special time during **Grandparent's week**, Jessica's grandmother came all the way from Newcastle just for the occasion!! Jessica couldn't stop smiling, it was a lovely surprise. Grandparents/special persons are welcome at any time during the year.

What shenanigans we had on **St Pat's Day!!** We tidied the room as usual and went out to play, when we came back inside we found a terrible mess! There was a lot of "who did that?" and "it wasn't me" to be heard, we found a note from a leprechaun asking us to find his shoes which he had lost while he was playing in our room (while we were out) The children packed away the mess and Demmi and Caleb R, found the shoes and went outside to try and find the leprechaun to let him know, when they came back inside the shoes were gone but they found a pile of gold(chocolate coins) as the leprechaun had promised. All the children sat down together to eat the gold and hypothesize as to just how a little Irish fairy could make such a mess, they concluded that it must have been me!!

We are beginning our preparations for Easter, Mother's Day Teaparty

and a visit from Victoria Museum at the end of April, we will also be visiting the elderly at Maffra Hospital, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of

April, so it is going to be a very busy few weeks!!!!!!

### A note from Mandy

A tentative booking has been made for the 8<sup>th</sup> of October for the **shopping trip**, all definite numbers need to be in by the beginning of May to decide whether to continue with the booking, thanks.

We welcome Ashlea Scarfo to our room, Ashlea Martin has taken up duties relieving staff for tea and lunch breaks as well as the morning staff.

Bye for now Halina, Mandy, Ashlea and Maddy

