Loxton Preschool Centre

Newsletter 12, Term 4
Monday, December 10th, 2018

Anzac Crescent
Loxton SA 5333
Phone: 8584 7481
Fax: 8584 7413
Email: dl.6524_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
Web: www.loxtonpre.sa.edu.au

Excellence ~ Optimism ~
Respect ~ Fun

Coming Events

December
- Monday 10th - Christmas Wonderland Excursion, End of Term Party
- Tuesday 11th - Christmas Wonderland Excursion, End of Term Party
- Wednesday 12th - End of Year Concert, Graduation 2pm
- Thursday 13th - End of Year Concert, Graduation 2pm
- Friday 14th - NO PRESCHOOL SESSION FOR CHILDREN

January
- Tuesday 29th - Preschool resumes for 2019

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!
This week, being the last week of our preschool year we will continue to look at aspects to do with Christmas celebrations. Our gift wrapping corner has been a very busy area with children making and wrapping presents for their friends. On Monday and Tuesday we have our Christmas excursion to Christmas Wonderland and streets around the town. This will be followed by our pooled party lunch and Christmas craft activities. On Wednesday and Thursday it will be last minute concert practise and then the ‘real performance’ at 2:00 o’clock followed by our student graduation.

On Friday there is no preschool for children.

A reminder that our end of year concert and graduation ceremonies will be held on Wednesday and Thursday December 12th and 13th from 2pm-3pm, depending on which session your child normally attends. All parents, caregivers and friends are invited to attend this special occasion. The children will present several musical items to entertain their guests. We will view a pictorial account of our preschool year starring all the children and educators. This will be followed by a Graduation Ceremony where all graduating students will be presented with their Preschool Diploma. –a great photo moment for your family album! Please join us as we celebrate your children’s achievements.

If you have ordered a copy of the 2018 The Year That Was DVD, they will be available for collection on the day.

Today all parents of graduating students should have received their child’s portfolio which contains work pieces, observation records, learning stories and term summaries. At the end of the folder you will find your child’s Term 4 Assessment Data and Statement of Learning Report that presents a summary of your child’s development and progress throughout the year. It includes a drawing completed by your child depicting some of their favourite
preschool activities and a place for your comment as parents. The teacher who wrote your child’s report is recorded on it. If you have any questions or comments please refer them to that particular teacher in the first instance. This reporting format is in line with the most recent Dept for Education Assessment and Reporting Policy. We will give a copy of the report to the school your child is transitioning to when we meet with your child’s prospective teachers. This is part of the transition process. We exchange information to help ensure your child’s success and continuity of learning.

The growth and development of the students over the preschool year is significant in all areas – academically, socially, physically, emotionally. It has been an incredible journey. You should be very proud of your child’s achievements.

This year we have placed the photos we have taken of your child throughout the year onto a DVD for you. The DVD is only as a method of storage and will need to be viewed on a computer (just like you would use a flash drive). Some of the photos are better than others so you will need to sort through them! You will find this DVD at the rear of your child’s portfolio. Please consider what you use them for and respect the rights of others by not putting any photos containing other children/staff on social media in any form without explicit permission from the photographed people.

Thankyou so much for all your hard work and dedication to your role.

Our last Governing Council meeting for the year will be held this Wednesday evening commencing at 6pm at the Loxton Hotel. The formal meeting will be held after dinner as previously arranged. All welcome.
Many thanks to everyone who was able to sell their book of raffle tickets and help with ticket sales in the main street. Together we have raised a profit of $2640.20 - a super effort and NEW record amount! It has surpassed our previous fundraising record. WOW!

We especially thank the following businesses and people who very generously donated prizes:-

1. Marion Holiday Park
2. Creative Pools and Landscaping
3. Loxton Irrigation Centre
4. Zoos SA
5. Loxton Waikerie District Council
6. Cabinet Creations Riverland
7. Larry’s Signs
8. Ronco Motors
9. Chaffey Theatre
10. Cole and Edward’s Pharmacies
11. Parents
12. Staff Members

Please do all you can to support their businesses as a practical way of thanking them. We are truly blessed to live in such a community spirited town.

Congratulations to the following winners:-

1. Walkington
2. Jakob Cripps
3. Leni Pritchard
4. Robyn Mason
5. Leni Fielke
6. R. Watkins
7. Ethan Schubert
8. Orianthi Johnson
9. Kaye Nitschke
10. Garry Curtis
11. Jill Dale
12. Nitschke
13. Mollie Thiele
14. Victoria Alm
15. Hope Perry
16. Sharon
17. Maya Uren
18. Stella Klonaris
19. V Ellwood
20. Megan Schultz
21. Poppy Mitchell
22. Andrea Athanasopoulos
23. Kathy Schramm
24. Alex Giles
25. Lynn Hand
26. Jill Schiller
27. J Dale
28. T Rogers
29. Steph Nitschke
30. Svenna Oldroyd
31. Sophie Fielke
32. Matt Spring
33. Sandy HAmipel
34. Mannie Casha
35. Hallie Thompson
36. Molly Schulz
37. Skylar Koehne
38. Klose
39. Sherridan Alm
40. Sharni Goodhand
41. Jodie Koch
42. Rhiannon Pedler
43. Jarvis Biele
44. Owen Winter
45. Rachel Parry
46. Clint Gerlach
47. Max
48. Faye Francis
49. Faye Taylor
50. Trish De Caux
51. Emma Walter
52. Jayden Bass
53. Michael Pfitzner
54. Win Hansen
Congratulations to you all!

Thankyou very much once again to all of you who bought and sold tickets.

A wonderful effort!

BUILDING PLANS

The final building plans were signed off last week for alterations to the Children’s and Access Toilet facilities due to National Quality Standards requirements. A viewing window will be installed where the current whiteboard is and wall removed to the Access Toilet. The nappy changing facilities will then be built into the children’s bathroom. The Access Toilet will be relocated to where the computers and book cupboard are. Due to the fact that these mandated alterations are being made, it has resulted in our floor space being reduced. This affects our capacity and limits the number of children that can attend preschool at one time. To counteract this part of the back verandah will be enclosed and walls removed in the main building making the preschool room significantly larger. This will enable the children to be inside when they eat lunch which will be more comfortable for them in adverse weather conditions.

The money raised from fundraising will help with some additional costs to this project.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check through our collection of lost property in case you find something that belongs at your house! We seem to have a variety of unnamed goods that need a home.

CLEANING AND JOB THANKYOU

Thankyou sincerely to those parents who have helped us with end of year tasks in recent times. Your help has been VERY much appreciated.
I would like to pay special tribute to all of our staff this year - Glen, Jess, Sharon, Nina, Julie, Penny, Sharna, Chelsea, Kim, Karen and Kasey, for their effort, dedication and commitment to early years education. They have made such a positive difference to the lives of many children.

At the end of this week we reluctantly farewell teacher Jessica Hucks. After 5 years working in the role of Universal Access Teacher at Loxton Preschool Centre, Jess has decided to move back to the school sector to further develop her career. Jess has a position at Cobdogla Primary School for 2019. It has been an absolute pleasure having Jess with us as an important and valued member of our staff team. Her professionalism, knowledge and expertise has been greatly appreciated by all. We will certainly miss her and are sad to say goodbye. However, we wish her all the very best for the next chapter in her teaching career and know that the children in her care will be very blessed to have her as their teacher. Thankyou sincerely Jess for your work here over the last years.

Thankyou for all your help and support throughout the year. Without your input we would not be able to provide the rich learning programme that we do. Thankyou for ensuring your child has attended, for providing them with lunch, reading newsletters, returning notices, helping us with fund-raising, cleaning, washing, donating goods, providing craft recyclables, paying preschool fees, etc, etc.

As the preschool year draws to a close it is an opportunity to reflect on the journey travelled. What a journey it has been!

Eleven months ago 84 children commenced preschool for the first time. There was so much to learn and become familiar with :- other children and educators names, routines, expectations, ways to ensure we all remained safe and happy, what to do at lunch-time, how to work and play together, how to be a caring friend, what to do throughout the day, how to obtain help, numeracy, literacy, fine motor, gross motor, social, creative, emotional, self-regulation skills, and so much more.

I am sure you will agree with me, the children’s development has been huge. They never cease to amaze me. They have only been on earth for 4-5 years and look what they have learnt and achieved already! We see children playing happily together, considering each other (most of the time!), beginning to write, using scissors capably, counting, sorting, designing and making, expressing their ideas, questioning, discovering, exploring, growing, laughing, talking and learning. May they never loose or have their love of learning stifled.
Each child is so precious and unique. It has indeed been a great privilege and one that I am very thankful for, to be involved in this chapter of their lives.

May I also thank you as parents for all that you do to help ensure your children reach their potential. Parenting is the hardest job and the most important one you will ever have. Children don’t come with a manual! May I encourage you to do all that you can to support your child’s education in the future.

Things like providing healthy food, ensuring your child gets enough sleep, that they have a routine, clear consistent reasonable boundaries, quality time with you and unconditional love are so important. They don’t need the latest gadgets, millions of toys—they need you. Our children need to know that they belong and that they have someone that treasures them. Helping them with their homework, listening to them read, reading to them, encouraging and supporting them is an investment that will return huge gains. Thankyou for making your children a priority.

I wish you all the best for a wonderful holiday time and a very happy and successful 2019 year.

Mandy James
Director