

Welcome to the Kindy Room

Educators in the Kindy room are:

Carmela (Early Childhood Teacher) – Monday – Friday

Morning Routine:

We start the day by going through the seasons, weather, and days of the week. We discuss what today, tomorrow, and yesterday was and sing a song which helps us to remember the days of the week. We also have a calendar where we look at which month it is, the date and any events we have within the month.

Early Years Learning Framework:

The Early Years Learning Framework is an early childhood curriculum framework, which guides early childhood educators in developing quality, early childhood education programmes. The aim of EYLF is to develop children's learning from birth to 5 years and through the transition to school.

There are 5 Learning Outcomes which are designed to capture the integrated and complex learning and development of all children.

The outcomes are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

Learning Through Play:

Learning through play is a term used in education to describe how a child can learn to make sense of the world around them. Through play children can develop social and cognitive skills, mature emotionally, and gain the self-confidence required to engage in new experiences and environments.

Intentional teaching:

In the Kindy space we plan for intentional teaching so what is this? Intentional teaching is where we spend time observing your child and identify areas where they may need some more knowledge or support. We then plan experiences around their needs and present the experiences to them with the idea of teaching them a skill, knowledge etc. This is intentional teaching.

Child's Voice:

It is important for children to have a say in their learning. So, with this in mind we have an Inquiry Wall for children to ask any questions they would like to have answered. We also hold class meeting where children can voice their opinions on things around the room, what's working well/not well, anything to change, and anything they need help with or ideas of what should be put out on the tables for free play time.

STEAM:

STEAM is addressed in the Australian Curriculum through the learning areas of Science, Technologies, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. The areas of STEAM are incorporated into the program monthly based on the children's interests, special events for the month and areas of intentional teaching. A science experiment that you might like to try at home which is very beneficial to children is get one slice of bread and let your child touch it without washing their hands. Then get another slice of bread get your child to wash their hands and then touch the bread. Then place each piece of bread into their own zip lock bag for display and observations, watch over a few days and see what happens! You can then hypothesis – guess what will happen (predict), draw pictures of what they think it will look like, and discuss what happened with your child. This is an example of a STEAM activity that children would have access to whilst in care.

Jolly Phonics:

Jolly Phonics is a fun and child centred approach to teaching literacy through synthetic phonics - with actions for each of the 42 letter sounds. The sounds are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible. Jolly Phonics teaches children the five key skills for reading and writing. The program continues through school enabling the teaching of essential grammar, spelling, and punctuation skills.

AUSLAN:

Corresponding with Jolly Phonics the children learn sign language. We focus on a letter each week which is the same Jolly Phonics letter that the room is focusing on. A few weeks into learning to sign letters there will be a handout for you to take home if you wish. It will have the alphabet and the letter signs for each letter.

School Readiness

In the Kindy room we support school readiness in several ways including

- encouraging group times where all children participate
- Supporting children to be responsible for their belongings
- Supporting correct pencil grip through play
- Providing opportunities for turn taking and small group social interactions
- Giving the children opportunities to open boxes, packages etc. To prep them for opening lunch boxes
- Providing opportunities for children to practice tying shoelaces, putting socks on, zipping and unzipping etc.
- Exposure to experiences that are mathematically and linguistically rich

Show and Tell:

In the Kindy room the children are encouraged to participate in show and tell each week. This is to support children in gaining confidence and speaking more clearly to their peers. It also encourages children to sit in a group setting together, which is a skill needed for school. There is a term roster that goes out on Storypark as well as in each child's pigeonhole. Most of the time there is a theme or free choice for show and tell.

Storypark:

We hope you are enjoying Storypark as much as we are. The children enjoy having their pictures taken, especially when they know that their parents and loved ones will be seeing them. It is an easy way to show you what learning and playing we are doing in the room as well as a way to receive instant feedback which helps us to learn new ways to extend children's unique interests and abilities. Storypark is our main platform for communication so please remember to keep an eye out for notifications, so you don't miss anything.

Parent Feedback:

It is very important to have your feedback on things and on what you see happening in the room. Please give feedback where you can whether it is constructive or positive. We really do value your feedback!