

Richmond Hill Community Preschool

NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

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Yoga with Joanna Gardner: Thursday 19th May
 Drumming Incursion: Monday 2nd June
 Healthy Harold Incursion: Tuesday 28th June
 Last Day of Preschool Term 2: Thursday 30th June
 First day of Preschool Term 3 Commences: Monday 18th July
 Parent Management Committee Meeting: Tuesday 9th August



INTERACTIVE DRUMMING SHOW

On Monday 2nd June an Interactive Drumming Show will be at preschool for 1 hour. All children will be able to explore various percussion instruments and drums. The cost of this is \$6 which will be added to your term fees. Please sign the permission list at the sign on counter. The interactive sessions are lead by Australian owner/founder Gareth Jones.

HOURS OF OPERATION
 Our licensing prevents children from being left in the care of Educators BEFORE 9am and after 3.00pm (extended hours available until 3.30pm). Please be aware this is valuable and necessary planning time for the staff to plan their education program and safely unpack equipment. Parents are most welcome to supervise their children in the playground outside of these times.

OUR PROGRAM IN TERM 2
 Our whiteboard communicates the interests of the children which have been explored at preschool. Please also take time to read our Educational Program which is displayed below the whiteboard which outlines our focus and intentional teaching strategies for the term. All Educators have documented meaningful learning experiences observed during your child's day. Look through your child's journal to read about their learning and adventures.

GROSS MOTOR
 This term we will learn a range of fundamental movement skills step by step, including how to bowl underarm using a tennis ball, how to gallop with one leg in front, how to strike a ball from a rope, how to kick a ball and how to walk on stilts. Small Groups - Pre Academic activities
 This term we are feeling, recognising and naming shapes; exploring sound with instruments/listening to sounds in our environment and identifying them, matching sounds; Science & Language Activities Reading about mothers and their different roles in the family, exploring recycling, going on scavenger hunts in the playground, a day in the life of an elephant, indigenous Craft - Creative Activities The children enjoyed creating special gifts for Mothers Day by drawing, pasting and

painting. They explored how colours can interact depending on what colour they are next to and colour mixing using droppers on paper towels.

Parents are always welcome to discuss their child's education and care at any time with the Supervisor.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
 Community partners play a vital role in supporting our Preschool. The Parent Management Committee are contacting the local community seeking support to keep our Preschool viable. If you know of any business that would be happy to contribute to your child's Community Preschool. Please see Shae.

CLOTHING
 With the cool change in the weather please remember to send your children to preschool in layers of clothing (labelled). It's often cold in the morning but warms up as the day goes on. Some spare clothes in your child's bag are also recommended for those damp, muddy days.

YOGA FOR KIDS - INCURSION WITH JOANNA GARDNER
 On Thursday 19th May Joanna Gardner will lead the children in Yoga for Kids. A signed permission note has been sent home to children who attend Preschool on a Thursday and \$5 will be added to your child's term fees. www.yogaforkids.net.au

HEALTHY HAROLD
 On Tuesday 28th June Healthy Harold will be coming to Preschool. Life Education supports children's learning and development for a healthy lifestyle through the opportunity to engage in Healthy Harold, Healthy Me - a play-based, experiential and interactive learning experience related to health, safety and building relationships in their everyday lives. Cost: \$10 which will be added to your term fees. Please sign the permission list at the sign on counter.

Introducing **SCHOLASTIC** **Book Clubs LOOP** for Parents
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Cheese & Biscuit Prepared at Home \$10.70/kg
Pre-Packaged Cheese and Biscuit \$46.60/kg

PUMPKIN ENERGY BALLS

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup pumpkin seeds (shelled)
- 1/2 cup sunflower seeds
- 1 Tablespoon chia seeds
- 1/2 cup almonds
- 1/2 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 cup chopped & pitted dates
- 1/2 cup rolled oats
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Put the nuts and seeds in a food processor or high-powered blender and pulse several times to chop. Pour into a bowl and set aside.
2. Put the remaining ingredients in the food processor and process to chop and mix well.
3. Add the nut mixture and pulse several times until well combined.
4. Scoop mixture onto large piece of plastic wrap. Wrap up and squeeze to form large ball.
5. Freeze for 30-60 minutes.
6. Remove from freezer and roll into bite-sized balls.
7. Store in the freezer.



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Some young children have some trouble with speech - that is, with pronouncing some sounds and words. It can be hard to get little lips and tongues and other parts of the mouth making the right sounds at the right times. But some speech troubles can be a sign of speech disorders or speech sound disorders.

About speech and speech development
 Speech is the ability to use your lips, tongue and other parts of your mouth to produce sounds.

For speech, children need to understand different sounds, as well as the rules for putting those sounds together in their own language.

Most children master the following sounds at the following ages:

- around 3 years: b, p, m, n, h, d, k, g, ng (sing), t, w, f, y
- around 4-5 years: f, sh, zh, ch, j, s, and cluster sounds tw, kw, gl, bl
- around 6 years: l, r, v, ng, and cluster sounds pl, kl, kr, fl, tr, st, dr, br, fr, gr, sn, sk, sw, sp, str, spl
- around 7-8 years: th, z, and cluster sounds sm, sl, thr, skw, spr, skr

Spotting speech disorders
 If you're worried that your child might have a speech disorder, think about how

often people who don't know your child have trouble understanding your child. When a child is two, an unfamiliar person should understand about half to three-quarters of what the child is saying. When a child is three and older, an unfamiliar person should understand that child most of the time, even though the child will probably still say some sounds and words differently from adults. If this is your child they may need help from a professional, most importantly in the year before they commence school.

Our Preschool works in conjunction with trained professionals who can help your child with speech or language development. You may also qualify for a Care plan with your GP which subsidises the cost of the sessions.

All Educators will be attending a staff training workshop with Catherine Forder on Speech and Language development for 3-5 years in Term 2. Staff are currently working with the children on their Speech and Language Development with small groups each week. If you have any concerns about your child's language and speech development, please see Shae or Maureen to discuss.

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

For those children making the transition to school in 2017 the Educators begin to talk about 'Getting ready' for Primary School.

The first step in making that transition is being responsible for your own belongings. You can help your child by:

- Letting them choose their own clothes and dress themselves from a specific Preschool draw when getting dressed in the morning
- Packing their Preschool bag together before getting in the car - discussing what they need to take that day
- Encouraging them to carry their school bag on their back into Preschool
- Letting your child unpack their bag and complete their jobs at Preschool
- When they arrive home letting them unpack their belongings lunch box etc. Practise using the zipper and clasps on their bags.

Your child may also begin to recognise and write their own name. Our Preschool follows the NSW Board of Studies Handwriting guide. It is important your child practises their name using this particular font as this can be a difficult habit to break.

NUT AWARE

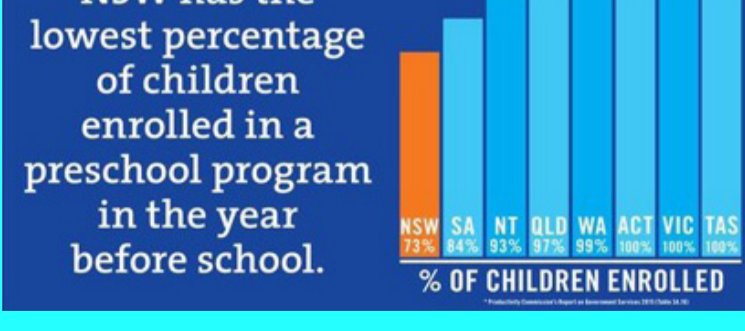
The Parent Management Committee wish to advise a change to become NUT AWARE to the Nutrition/ Food/ Beverage/Dietary Policy effective immediately. Our Preschool recognises that Nut and Nut products are a large part of the diet for the children that attend Richmond Hill Preschool. The Director and the Committee have completed an extensive Risk Assessment and Risk Benefit Assessment as part of this change to ensure all areas are covered. If you feel your child may be significantly impacted by this change in policy please see the Director. Effective immediately small nuts and nut products are now acceptable food items to be consumed at Preschool. Please remember to pack foods that your child has confidently consumed in the past to minimise any choking risk. As per our policy Educators supervise children at meal times and discourage any sharing of food items between children.

CHANGE TO POLICIES

The Parent Management Committee wishes to advise changes to the following policies: Nutrition/Food/Beverage/Dietary Policy

Fee Policy and Procedure

The above policies will be emailed. The Policies and Procedures are also on display in the blue folder near your child's portfolios. Please do not hesitate to discuss these with the Director if you have any questions.



Did you know our Preschool relies on help from our Families to stay viable and keep on operating? We provide a quality Education Program with qualified staff to ensure your child receives the best start to their education but unfortunately the NSW Government spends less money per child on Early Education compared to other states. We need your support with fundraising and volunteering at Preschool to cover this shortfall to remain a quality education service. Check out this article to see how much danger Preschools in regional areas are in <http://www.ieu.asn.au/campaigns/teachers-are-teachers/campaign-news/nsw-preschool-funding-still-lowest-in-australia/>
 What can you do?
 1. Be part of the Preschool Community and help the Parent Management Committee
 2. Support our fundraising efforts by putting your hand up to support each activity
 3. Like the 'Fund Preschools NOW' Facebook page
 4. Speak to your local members about how important Preschool is to your family!

Richmond Hill Community Preschool appreciates our Community Partners for their ongoing support.