



## Coromandel Valley Kindergarten

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*Dear Parents*

*Welcome to Coromandel Valley Kindergarten. We hope you and your family are coping well with getting back into a routine after the long summer break.*

*At CVK we believe that you are your children's first and most important teachers and children learn best where there is engaging communication and strong relationships between CVK staff and families.*

*We encourage you to spend time in the kindergarten with your child, whether it is at pick up and drop off, or during the session. Your involvement makes their kindergarten experience all the more enriched and valuable.*

*We are looking forward to developing partnerships with you and your children over the coming year. The Kindy team are happy to take the time to chat with you briefly in the morning or afternoon or you can leave a note for us in the parent diary by the sign in sheet.*

*Kind regards, Jen, Melissa, Georgia and Louise*

## GOVERNING COUNCIL 2019

*I will email parents that have indicated interest in being on the Governing Council as a separate group to negotiate a time when the majority can attend the first meeting and we will go from there. Your role in Governing Council can be as big or as small as you like. Meetings are usually held twice a term e.g. week 4 and week 9 for approximately 2 hours and give parents an opportunity to be involved in monitoring our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP), policy reviews, provide input into site planning priorities and fundraising. The Governing Council members represent our parent community. You can join as Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Coordinator or general member. It is a great way to get to know each other and the workings of the Kindy, parents who have participated have found it is a rewarding and enjoyable experience. It would be wonderful to see many parents nominating at the first meeting for 2019. One of our first decisions to make is do we want to do fundraising activities or have a voluntary fundraising levy?*

**Please label everything with your child's name and include a full set of spare clothes**

## **CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL WELLBEING**

*We begin the year with a focus on establishing healthy eating and a balance of physical activity and restful times. The plan for the day starts with morning snack always being fruit - we are happy to cut up apples etc. Each Tuesday and Thursday is shared fruit day and we ask that you provide a fruit or vegetable that can be put on a shared platter. We **cannot** accept pre-cut fruit from home - i.e. leave the half rockmelon etc. for us to cut up at Kindy.*

*You can support your child's successful mealtimes at Kindy by providing containers that they can easily identify as theirs and open independently, talking with them about trying different foods, providing as much unprocessed "nude food" as possible, making their fruit / snack easy to find in their lunch pack. Please bring all food containers (named) into the Kindy and store in the bench provided. All meal and snack times are monitored and supervised by staff.*

*We have planned for the children to engage in active exercise each morning. The teachers plan activities and challenges to support the development of core strength, hand/eye coordination, balance and large muscle development. You can support this by dressing your child in clothing and footwear that allows them to move freely, comfortably and safely inside and outside. We especially appreciate if your child can dress in a top with sleeves and a collar and wear sturdy, well fitted shoes or sandals.*

*After lunch, children engage in a "chill out" time. They are able to self-monitor and choose a quiet activity such as reading, drawing or colouring in or have a lie down on the Yoga mats and listen to soft music.*

*We will introduce the concepts of fair play, natural justice and begin to use specific words such as COOPERATING and INTERFERING when talking about our interactions in conjunction with a program called "the way to A" which encourages children to self-monitor and re-think negative behaviours and adjust their actions to restore relationships and develop a positive outcome.*

*Staying safe and calm in an emergency will be special skills we develop as we regularly practice and discuss our bushfire action plan (BAP), invacuation (if we see a snake) and evacuation (if there is danger inside) drills.*



**Kindy Fees are due week 2 each term**  
**\$200.00 payable by EFT**  
**Coromandel Valley Kindergarten Inc.**  
**BSB 105 – 078**  
**Account # 302 213 140**

### ***Fire Danger Season***

*As we are well and truly in the Bushfire Season please reacquaint yourself with our kindergarten Bushfire Action Plan (BAP).*

- We will be practising Bushfire Emergency Drills in Terms 1 and 4.*
- Information regarding bushfire ratings for the following day is displayed on the CFS website [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) after 4pm the previous evening. If you are unable to access the internet this information is also on ABC 891 radio.*
- We may not be able to advise families individually about extreme and catastrophic fire rated days.*
- The kindergarten will be closed on Catastrophic Fire Days.*
- On Extreme Fire rating days you may choose to not attend kindergarten and activate your own bushfire action plan.*

*CVK staff expects that you have applied sunscreen to your child in the morning before the Kindy session. Staff help children with a second application of sunscreen before lunch. We supply a child friendly SPF 50+ sunscreen lotion but, if you have a preference for a particular type of sunscreen please supply us with a named and original container to stay at Kindy.*

*Children are applying sunscreen before lunch, wearing hats, playing in shaded areas – especially in the afternoon and are given reminders about drinking water. Please encourage your child to dress in suitable clothing that has sleeves and collars to protect their shoulders / neck and comfortable, sturdy shoes that allow for physical activity (no thongs please).*

*Each child will have a complimentary named Kindy bucket hat in their hat pocket in week 1 to use at Kindy and polo tops are available for purchase (\$20.00 each).*

### *Session Times, What to Bring, Communication etc...*

*Your child's Kindy day begins at 8:15am and we have sessions on Monday and Tuesday (**Banksia group**) and Wednesday and Thursday (**Wattle group**) each week. Our teachers are Jen, Melissa and Georgia, Louise provides early childhood and administration support. We have many strategies to support families with separation anxiety and are focused on building positive relationships.*

*At the other end of the day we try to be flexible with pick up times up to 3:45pm. We aim to complete the preschool education program by 3pm and will continue with quiet activities / snacking until 3:45pm so parents can collect their children and juggle school pick-ups as well. Your child will usually be very excited to see you at the end of the day. Please encourage them to stay on the mat until a teacher has said goodbye, so we can be sure who is still here and who has left Kindy for the day. You are welcome to join other families that like to have a catch up and let their children play on the outdoor equipment at the end of the Kindy session.*

*This is a time when you will need to supervise your child and support them to continue to play safely.*

*Your child will need at least 1 piece of fruit, a healthy snack and lunch, as well as a named drink bottle with fresh water in it. Please check if your child can open their lunch box and containers independently. Please save treats and "sometimes foods" for home. A full change of clothes including underwear will be needed by each child at some stage.*

*Family pigeon holes are labelled with both parent and child names. Check your pigeon hole and email regularly as we communicate important information in this way. We also have a closed group on Facebook you are welcome to join that we encourage questions, conversations and posting interesting information on - search Coromandel Valley Kindergarten on Facebook.*

*A diary can be found next to the sign in sheets. This diary is for parents to record any changes to their child's routine, for example a different person collecting the child, an early pick up or a planned absence. We are also introducing a suggestion box for you to add your comments and suggestions to. This information will be used at Staff and GC meetings to support the ongoing planning and development of the Kindy.*

## EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

*We will begin the term getting to know each other, developing our sense of being a member of the group, engaging positive, purposeful and interactive play skills, developing friendships and becoming familiar with the Kindy environment. Introducing sun safe procedures, hygiene skills, looking after belongings and getting accustomed to Kindy routines are key elements of term 1. Children will be able to play outdoors in the beautiful weather in the sandpit with water, T ball, basketball, bowling, climbing and swings as well as exploring the mud kitchen and gardening. Indoors, children can self-select activities and access learning opportunities such as puzzles, books, blocks, dolls house and engage in socio dramatic play in the home corner and make and play with play dough. Literacy and Numeracy will be interwoven throughout the curriculum and will have consideration in all aspects of the daily activity.*

*Each year we have a "Family Book" and shortly will send home a note and a sheet of card for you to add photos and share information about your child, family and cultural background. Children will be able to share their page at mat time and keep their special page in our family book for the year.*

*Jen, Melissa and Georgia will be sharing responsibility for the curriculum, each leading a portfolio area - Literacy, Numeracy and Child Protection and well-being as well as a focus on STEM and engaging a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). We each have a group of children to focus observations and interaction with as well as working with the whole group. Each child will have a portfolio book that will be used to record special moments in their learning journey and will become a very special artefact / keepsake by the end of the year.*

*Each child will have an individual learning plan (ILP) and their focus teacher will be available for discussions with you throughout the year, culminating in a statement of learning (SoL) at the end of the year that will reflect your child's kindergarten learning journey in 2019.*

*We are planning some excursions throughout the year, hopefully one each term to places like Cleland Sanctuary, a theatre performance and the Art Gallery of SA. When we have confirmed dates we will let you know well in advance as we will be looking for supervisor assistance and you or an adult member of your family may want to join us 😊*