



Coromandel Valley Kindergarten

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Newsletter # 2 February 2019

Diary Dates

Term 1:

- Kindy sessions start at 8.15am and conclude at 3.45pm Please drop off and collect children within these timeframes.
- **Term Kindergarten fees due by Friday 15th February - \$200.00**
- CYH checks are 26th and 27th February – you need to be here with your child for their 30 minute appointment
- Governing Council Meeting 4.30pm Wednesday 13th February and 13th March

Curriculum News We have a strong commitment to supporting all children in developing the skills and attitudes to support lifelong learning.

At the children's sign it table we encourage parents to take a step back and let your child do some slow thinking - see if they can find their name, try to write the letters and maybe move onto the next table and attempt some secondary challenges like using the rocks and scrabble letters to form their name. Mistakes are OK and attempts celebrated.

Routines are very important as they develop working memory and the predictability of a routine can often be comforting. Help your child develop some routines and independence by letting them carry their kindy bag in and place it on a hook, take their lunch box and drink bottle out and put it on the right shelf. We have noticed all of the children are quite competent at applying their own sunblock without getting it in their eyes. Your child can do it; they just need some time to think it through.

Resilience and persistence having a try is a really important disposition for learning. It is ok if your child is not yet holding their pencil correctly, forming letters and counting numbers sequentially. The teachers are very skilled at supporting children to develop skills in literacy and numeracy as well as executive functions. We use our purposeful play based environment to encourage and practice executive functions every day.

Delaying gratification or waiting to get what you want – is something teachers purposefully work on by setting the design of specific areas at kindy – e.g. there are 4 place mats and 4 chairs at the play dough table – you may have to wait to have a turn – what else can you do while you wait, can you organise to take turns?

Caring for our kindy environment is an expectation and something we practice frequently each day. Teachers often ask the children to assess the environment and decide if it is being looked after or needs some care. The children participate in picking up our resources and resetting our play spaces. At the end of the day each child packs up their kindy bag taking care to make sure they have all of their belongings.

Staying safe at kindy is of paramount importance. We regularly talk about emergencies and practice our emergency drill. Children are also required to say good-bye to their teacher at the end of the day by shaking their hand or giving a high 5.

Sun Smart Practices

During the week the weather turned cooler and we have enjoyed some rain. I have heard a number of parents saying “you don’t need sunblock on today it is cloudy, cooler or raining”. This is incorrect as the UV rating is not determined by any of these factors for example on Tuesday 12 Feb it was predicted 20 degree max and was overcast and raining for much of the day, however the UV rating was 10 – this requires us to maintain our sun sense practices and apply sunblock and wear hats and suitable clothing. Please support our practices by ensuring your child has applied sunblock in the morning when they come to Kindy. There is a UV rating chart that we update daily however in general the UV reading is above 3 from mid-August until the end of April.

Take Home Curriculum

Literacy packs, The Everywhere Bear and Maths Monster are celebrated parts of our week with the children. Every child anticipates their turn to take home the Everywhere Bear or the Maths Monster to share with their family. We know you have very busy lives but really appreciate that many families embrace their child's enthusiasm and make an effort to look at the packs during the week.

When the Everywhere Bear of the Maths Monster return to Kindy it is really important that your child is responsible for carrying this into the Kindy and approaching a teacher to discuss the pack and how it all went for them, this your child's job and an important part of their learning. This helps to build relationships as well as reinforcing with each child they are capable of having a reciprocal conversation and looking after these special resources. The recording for these packs should be a very simple thing – no need to take lots of photos, children are able to draw and mark make (prewriting) or attempt some writing to tell their story.

Building Relationships

Over the coming weeks your child will have a large piece of coloured card to bring home and create a family page. It is part of our relationship building and teachers also participate with their own family page. This is something we share with our group and then make into a big book we can look at throughout the year. Your child will choose who they want to include in their family page and may want to use photographs as well as adding their own drawings and decorations. We ask that you support their thinking and efforts and have their completed family page back to Kindy by the end of term 1.

How was your day?

Often parents remark that their child has nothing to tell them about their kindy day and will answer “nothing”, “I don't know” or “I can't remember”. If you have a specific query you can ask a teacher at the end of the day or you may find something of interest on our Facebook page, in the curriculum program or in your child's portfolio book. (Please leave the portfolio books at Kindy). Your child is more than likely tired from their big day and may need some processing time before they can answer questions. Try chatting over dinner or at bath or bed time to see if you get more information. Many are still learning names so won't know who they have played with – check out the name tags on the hat pockets – this may help identify new friends.

<p>Kindy Fee EFT Details: Coromandel Valley Kindergarten Inc. BSB 105 078 Account # 302 213 140 Reference your child's name</p>
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