



Coming Events

Week 3

Mon 14th-Thurs 17th May Special Visitors Week

Week 4

Wed 23rd May CAFHS Health Checks
Wed 23rd May Simultaneous Storytime
Thurs 24th May Pupil Free Day
Fri 25th May Fees Due

Week 8

Mon 18th June Governing Council 7:30pm

Week 9

Tues 26th June Pupil Free Day
Wed 27th June Podiatry Visit

Week 10

Tues 3rd July Podiatry Visit
Wed 4th & Thurs 5th July Last Days of Term

SPECIAL VISITORS WEEK

This week is Special Visitors Week (14th-17th May). All grandparents, aunts, uncles and special friends are welcome to visit our centre and stay and play. You are welcome any day or time during this week.

Families need to advise us who will be visiting their child and special visitors will need ID to show upon sign-in. Please let us know either via email or at reception who your child's special visitors will be, thank you.

Special Visitors will need to **sign in at reception upon arrival and provide ID**. Thank you, we look forward to meeting you.

PUPIL FREE DAYS

Governing Council has approved 2 Pupil Free Days this term.

**Thursday 24th May (Term 2 Week 4) and
Tuesday 26th June (Term 2 Week 9)**

There will be NO Kindy or Occasional Care sessions on these days. Thank you for your understanding.

CAFHS HEALTH CHECKS

CAFHS will be visiting the Ardtornish Children's Centre on **Wednesday 23rd May** to undertake 4 year old Health Checks.

If your child is over 4 and hasn't yet had their health check you are welcome to book an appointment with us.

Appointments can be booked by phoning or seeing Jo at reception. Paperwork will then need to be collected and filled in prior to the appointment.

LEARNING ABOUT OUR WORLD

This term in Catherine's small group, the children will be investigating, researching and exploring languages, cultures and family traditions.

To further extend this line of inquiry, parent feedback and input is vital (please 😊). For example, family members might like to do some cooking with the children, share photos from a family holiday, come and talk to our small group about a unique part of your culture or teach the children some phrases in another language.

I would love to teach the children how to sing our welcoming song in different languages (but I would need your help!). The song goes like this, 'Catherine's here today, Catherine's here today, let's all clap our hands because Catherine's here today.' We say hello to every child in our group in this way.

If anyone feels like they could share anything with our small group, please let Catherine know. It would be greatly appreciated and supportive of the children's learning. Thank you 😊

A MESSAGE FROM MEL

Throughout the term we have been using 'Wombat Stew' as our research text to encourage thinking and provoke curiosity amongst all. Through engaging in the story table provocation the children shared their prior knowledge and wonderings; koalas quickly became a common theme.

I have challenged the children's thinking with the question "How can we support our local wildlife community?"

Many of the children are familiar with collecting cans and bottles to raise money. If you can support them in collecting cans and bottles, please bring them in so we can recycle them and raise money to support our local koala population in a way that the children will decide.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOR

Supporting children to make socially acceptable behaviour choices is part of our curriculum. Like other learning areas children's development in this area varies between children.

We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and secure, to feel a sense of belonging, and to have warm relationships with people they can trust. We believe that children learn best when they are treated with consistency and respect, experience success and have positive self-esteem. We acknowledge and accept that there are times when children will feel angry, frustrated and upset, and need help to express their feelings appropriately. We support a child's right to make decisions and to have choices.



We encourage all children to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and its consequence, and to respond appropriately according to their developmental ability. (*From our Interactions with Children Policy*)

When unsafe or unacceptable behaviour occurs staff will:

1. Remind children of expectations and offer choices and alternatives to meeting needs and expressing feelings
2. Redirect the play or the child
3. Talk about the problem, e.g. what would happen if... thereby encouraging children to consider the consequences and to set reasonable limits and boundaries
4. If unsafe or unacceptable behaviours are repeated 'reflection time' will be initiated
5. When inappropriate behaviour patterns continue to occur over an extended period of time the Centre will work with the family to provide additional support and agreed strategies to encourage the child to develop socially acceptable behaviour patterns and self-regulate. This may include referral to other professional services as appropriate to the situation.
6. Maintain confidentiality of all families

In supporting children who have been adversely affected by the behavior of another child staff will:

1. Check on the wellbeing of the child and respond as needed
2. Listen to the child and support them to express their feelings
3. At an appropriate time, support the child to develop appropriate strategies to assert their right to be safe, such as saying stop and seeking help.
4. Discuss the child's wellbeing with their family.
5. Maintain confidentiality of all families

When supporting children to make amends staff will support children to choose a strategy that is appropriate to the situation and the child. These may include:

- Recognising the behavior and its impact and agreeing to stop
- Asking if there is anything they can do/get.
- Helping clean up/re-build
- Asking are you OK
- Inviting play
- Apologising

If you would like more information please speak to a member of the staff team.

SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

National Simultaneous Storytime is an annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books.

Each year a picture book (written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator) is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, preschools, childcare centres and many other places around the country.

This year's book is **Hickory Dickory Dash** and will be read to children on **Wednesday May 23rd at 11am**.

GOVERNING COUNCIL NEWS

Thank you to those families who have formed our governing council this year. Governing council is key to both our accountability and our responsiveness to community values. We still need a couple of additional members to consistently form a quorum. A quorum is the required number of members to pass a decision, for us this is 8.

Summary of Minutes of the Governing Council meeting 7/05/2018:

Key discussion:

- Director, CDC and FSC Reports tabled

Key decisions:

- Acceptance of all tabled financial reports for March and April
- Approval of the 2018 final budget
- Acceptance of quote for grounds maintenance
- Approval of alteration to second proposed pupil free day date to align with Modbury partnership

Key actions:

- Complaints and Late Pick up Policies to be read ready for presentation of feedback

Next meeting 18th June 2018 7:30. Key agenda items will be policy review and outdoor learning environment consultation. All welcome.

PODIATRY VISIT

Podiatry Care Modbury will be visiting our Centre on **Wednesday 27th June** and **Tuesday 3rd July** to conduct a brief assessment of children's feet, legs, the way they sit and walk and their footwear.

This assessment is offered free of charge.

Brochures and consent forms will be emailed to families later this term.



Ardtornish
Children's
Centre
for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting

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Government
of South Australia

2019/2020 ENROLMENTS

Do you have a child, or know someone with a child, who will be due to start kindy in 2019 or 2020? Due to our high numbers it is important that you have filled in a Preliminary Enrolment form which will put your child on our waiting list.

Please see Jo at reception to pick up a form or check you have already submitted one, thank you.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Parenting Supports This Term

Our current program highlights include a number of chances to reflect on how we respond to our children and learning new approaches. **All are free for dads, mums and carers:**

Staying Safe – Donna Broadhurst's insights and ideas about how we as parents can help our children assert themselves and make decisions that protect them and seek safety – has been postponed and will be promoted ASAP.

Positive Parenting Program – over **three Wednesday evening's** from 6 - 8:30pm. 23, 30 May, & 6 June. Focusing on building children's confidence, competence and resilience. Crèche available. **21 Days to Happier Families** – an **online course** for dads, mums, carers and their children to take some structured time to care for themselves and the relationships that matter most. **Bringing Up Great Babies** - a **five week Wednesday morning course** starting 6 June, looking at understanding the needs of babies and how to address these positively and more confidently, while caring for yourselves. **Circle of Security** – no program at Ardtornish this term but bookings are available for our **eight week evening course, with crèche, next term**. Ingle Farm Family Zone has a daytime COS programs this term.

Other Stuff

Vegan Cooking snack – If you are interested in making some simple **vegan** snacks – parent Amy will be offering her skills and knowledge for three **Wednesday mornings**, at 9am from 16 May - fresh food for your child's lunchbox. All welcome, the coffee pot will be brewing. **Twilight Play** - Featuring a **Camping** theme on **Tuesday 22 May** and a **Walk in the Dark** on **Thursday 14 June** - with a one week raincheck. If it rains raincheck week we have other options. **Grow Up Smiling (GUS) Dental Outreach** – will be at the Children's Centre from 26-28 June. An approved adult **MUST** accompany your child to the dentist. Registration forms for new families are available from the Centre. Families already registered will be sent a reminder letter.

Regards to all
John Buckell
82649828, 0409984495 or email john.buckell@sa.gov.au



Positive Parenting Program



A series of three **FREE** sessions relating to:

- **Positive Parenting**
- **Raising confident and competent children**
- **Raising Resilient Children**

Light refreshments and crèche (from 5:30pm) provided

When: 6 -7:30pm Wednesday 23 & 30 May and 6 June

Where: Ardtornish Children's Centre
2 Saarinen Avenue
St Agnes SA

To book, drop in, or call Jo or John on 8264 9828
or SMS 0409 984 495

All welcome, bookings are essential