



Coming Events

Week 3	
Mon 13 th – Thurs 16 th Feb	Special Visitors Week
Week 4	
Fri 24 th Feb	Fees due
Week 5	
Mon 27 th Feb	AGM – All Welcome
Week 11	
Mon 10 th April	CAFHS Health Checks

WELCOME

Welcome to new and returning families. We are off to a flying start for 2017. The children are making the most of the changeable weather and exploring the way the preschool environment changes; adapting their activities to suit. For those children starting preschool for the first time a big 'Well Done' on your first week. It's a big change and it's hard! Different children will respond in different ways and regardless of how your child has responded to their transition we would like to reassure all families that it is normal and that they are working through their big feels appropriately for them. The staff have all enjoyed meeting our new families, as well as seeing some familiar faces returning and look forward to getting to know you all better.

SPECIAL VISITORS WEEK

Week 3 is Special Visitors Week (13th Feb – 16th Feb). 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 **but** please avoid our lunch times 11:45am – 12:45pm.

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 please **sign in at reception upon arrival**. Thank you and we look forward to meeting you.

AGM

We invite all families to attend our Annual General Meeting on Monday 27th Feb at 7:30pm. At the AGM families will have a chance to hear our Director talk about Numeracy and present the 2016 Annual Report, take part in election of our Governing Council for 2017 and approve our budget. Please see attached letter for more information and to register your attendance (this will help with catering for supper).

FEES

Term 1's fee invoices have now been emailed to your preferred email address. These fees are due by the end of week 4 (24th February). Please see Heather if you have any questions or concerns regarding payment of your child's fees.

REMINDERS

SIGN IN AND OUT: Please remember to sign your child in when arriving at kindy (sign-in sheet is located at reception) and sign out when picking your child up (sign-out sheet is located above children's bags in the kindy), thank you.

UNACCEPTABLE FOOD: As per our Healthy Food Policy – muesli bars, fruit bars, roll-ups and juice are unacceptable and should not be part of your child's lunch or snacks for kindy. A copy of our Healthy Food Policy is available at reception.

SNACKS: When your child unpacks their bag in the morning please help them to keep snacks in their bag for easy access throughout the day and only put lunches in the containers at reception, thank you.

DRINK BOTTLES AND LUNCHBOXES: Please ensure the lunchbox and drink bottle you have supplied for your child is one they can open and use independently.

INDEPENDENCE: To help children build independence please let them put their own lunch and drink bottle in the containers in the morning. Also, encourage them to place their own bag in a locker so they know where to find it to access their snack.

EMAIL: Please continue to regularly check your email as this is our main communication method with families attending our Centre. If your email (or other details) changes please advise us via reception, thank you.

DOORS OPEN AT 8:15am: After signing your child in and helping them unpack their bag please wait in reception until the kindy door opens at 8:15am, thank you.

Please see staff if you have any concerns or questions.

IMMUNISATION HISTORY

DECD have updated their procedure 'Protecting Children against Vaccine Preventable Diseases'. Due to this there is now a new **requirement for families to provide immunisation records as part of their child's enrolment at kindy.** These records must be sighted by the end of term 1 (13th April, 2017). More information regarding this will be emailed to families in the coming weeks.



DOOR SAFETY

As you enter and exit our centre and kindy area please ensure the doors close properly after you and please do not let other people's children out, thank you.

FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR

Hi Everyone,

My name is Natalie and I am the Family Services Coordinator at Ardtornish Children's Centre.

I am available for confidential assistance to support you with any challenges you or your family may be experiencing. Free short term individual and family counselling is available.

If you need anything or would just like to have a chat and have a cuppa please come and see me at the centre or give me a call on my mobile: 0437169403.

CAFHS HEALTH CHECKS

CAFHS will be at the Ardtornish Children's Centre on **Monday 10th April** to conduct **4 year health checks**. If your child is 4 or older and hasn't had their check yet, and you would like to make an appointment, please see Jo at reception to make a booking and collect paperwork. Please note: If this date doesn't suit you CAFHS will be here later in the year again, so register your interest for an appointment at reception.

SUN SAFE POLICY

HATS

As per our Sun Safe Policy all children are required to wear a hat for outdoor play. Please ensure you supply your child with a **named wide brim or flap hat**. No caps please.

SUNSCREEN

In line with our sun safe policy we are encouraging all children to apply sunscreen before playing outside – **please ensure your child comes to kindy with sunscreen on**. We ask all parents to please supply sun screen for their child (named please). If you have already supplied sunscreen, please regularly check the expiry date and amount of sun screen remaining. Thank you. **Please note: children will be assisted to independently apply their personal sunscreen at lunch time to ensure continued protection in the afternoon.**

SUN SAFE CLOTHING

With the warm weather and increased UV rates children must have covered shoulders for outdoor play (no singlets or tank tops please). We also ask that children do not wear crocs or thongs as these are not safe for outdoor play; sturdy supportive shoes such as sandals with ankle straps are a suitable option. Thank you.

LITERACY KITS

We have numerous Literacy Kits available for you to borrow and share with your child. They are situated in our reception area.

When borrowing and returning a literacy kit please follow the procedure below:

Borrowing – Please write your child's name, the kit number and title and the date borrowed in the recording book.

Returning – Write the date returned in the recording book and then **put the kit in the box on top of the shelf, NOT on the hanger**, as they need to be checked and filled.

More information on the benefits and purpose of using Literacy Kits is available if required.

Please see one of our staff if you have any questions, thank you.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Term I Activities

Making Music, a (Music) teacher led music program starts on Tuesday 22 **February** from 9:30am. Making Music costs \$30 for the five week program. **Twilight Play** for dads, mums and families of kindy children and their siblings is on the evening of Tuesday 28th February. We plan to make some boats and take them 'sailing & sinking' on the Gifford Reserve pond. We will also be cooking pancakes – Twilight play is free and a meal for the children is always provided.

We run courses to assist parents to explore and review their parenting in supportive groups. A six week **Circle of Security** program will be offered in Term 2. If you are interested speak to John or Natalie. This course is free, runs in the evenings and there is a crèche.

From Tuesday 21 Feb we will run a five week evening **Mindfulness** course (for \$60). The sessions introduce proven techniques to overcome our less helpful reactions to life and with that develop healthier and less stressful ways to handle relationships and more difficult situations.

Shauna's **Mum's and Bub's Yoga** begins next week.

Saturdays at Ardtornish

We will be holding several **Saturday** sessions this term including at least one for dads and their infants - more details later. **First Aid for Dads and Mums** will be offered from 10am-1pm on Saturday 1 April, book a place now for \$20.

Cycle Saturday

It's free & there's a BBQ (veg option)



Best for beginner over 4½ yrs or
practiced younger riders

Saturday 18

March

9:45am—12pm

**In front of
the school's gym**

Cycle Saturday is a great opportunity to support your child's cycling confidence and basic cycling skills such as balancing, steering & stopping. It will be held on 18 March – be there at 9:45 for registration. There will be a bbq snack at 11:45.

Mid-term (Saturday 11 March), parent Pam Carrington will be presenting **Financial Solutions** offering financial advice to support local home owners. If you have any questions call Pam on 0425 872 929

Outside

Mel is coordinating some gardening experiences for her group. We prepared a **garden bed** over the summer holidays and will soon be building some paths and planting. If you have any sprouting vegetables or rooted herbs we could use, or are interested in helping, speak to Mel or John.



We have been donated a stainless steel double kitchen sink and a metal table frame that we want to join together to improve our **mud kitchen**. If anyone has some metalworking expertise we would appreciate some assistance.

Nude Food Lunch Box Raffle

Win one of two nude food lunch box packs by completing our survey - see the packs and the survey in the foyer. The winners will be drawn at the AGM on Monday 27th February.

For up to-date information about our program, see our **Facebook** page or look at the noticeboard in the foyer.

Cheers, John Buckell
Community Development Coordinator
82649828, 0409984495 or email john.buckell@sa.gov.au