

"The Elder Street Herald"

November/December Edition 2007

In this edition we will be talking about:

***FAMILY XMAS CELEBRATION *GIVING TREE *TOY ORDERS *SCHOOL PHOTOS *2007 FEE STATEMENTS *SUN PROTECTION *EMERGENT CURRICULUM INFORMATION *TRANSITIONS TO OTHER ROOMS IN THE CENTRE *LATEST EDITIONS *BIRTHDAYS**

FAMILY XMAS CELEBRATION

Let's kick off the last newsletter of the year with some great shots of our lovely family event on 23 November when Santa came to visit. The weather was kind, the sausages were hot, the drinks were cold, the children were busy, the clowns were creative, the parents were chatty and Santa was jolly - what else could we possibly ask for!!!



Sophie becomes a beautiful butterfly



Preschool Wallaby Class of 2007



Everyone waiting for Santa



Kelsey gets our vote for the best Santa reaction!

ELDER STREET XMAS GIVING TREE

We have had a fantastic response from families and staff at the centre who have made some lovely donations to our Giving Tree. Some families in our area who are less fortunate than all of us will receive a lovely gift of some clothes or toys this year thanks to your generosity.

I would also like to extend the invitation to any family who may wish to take the gifts from the Tree to a charity organization. I am more than happy to do it myself, but after some consideration I thought this could be seen as a great chance for the children to be able to actually see the gifts handed over and receive special thanks from the charity organization staff. If you have the time, a charity in mind and would like to be involved in this, please come and speak to me (Melissa) before 19 December.



TOY ORDERS

Both Parent Direct and Chalk orders have been delivered to the centre in the last week or so. If you know you have ordered from either of these catalogues and haven't seen your order, please speak to Karen or Kate and they will be able to help you out. Disappointingly there were some items out of stock, but overall the orders were correct with all items received.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

These have also been returned and handed out, with positive responses from families. We are pleased to say that this photographer produced some lovely quality shots and was best of all very reliable and well organised. More than likely we will use Little Images again next year. Of course if anyone believes they did not receive their order, please see me.

2007 END OF YEAR FEE STATEMENTS

This week (3/12/07) we billed the remaining weeks of our 2007 year to all accounts. We find it is always a great practice and a functional way to start the new year if all accounts are at a zero balance before the new year begins. This also saves any confusion over change of fee rates from this year to next. As mentioned on the statements, we will not bill again until 7 January 2008 using our new year rate.

For any families leaving the centre, you should have received a note as to how you would like your bond refunded to you (ie, by cheque or internet banking details). Please ensure your account is paid in full so these monies can be refunded to you, or come and speak to myself or Kim if you would like to utilise your bond monies to be put against any outstanding fees, or credited to a siblings account.

SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Let's start off our very hot and sunny new year by being sure we are protecting the children as best we can from the sun - here are two very important reminders about sun protection:

1. Sunscreen your children each morning on arrival or beforehand
2. Ensure clothing worn is sun safe - **full sleeved t-shirts** (short sleeves, not capped or frilled sleeves) and also **covers the midriff**

THANK YOU

TRANSITIONS TO OTHER ROOMS IN THE CENTRE



A very busy Will during his orientation visit to the Wallaby room

At this time of the year we give the children who are changing rooms the opportunity to have orientation visits to their new room. This helps them become accustomed to the room layout, the routines, the children and teachers. We find it always a very positive and highly beneficial process to make the transition smooth for all involved. The other very positive practice involves parents being a positive and confident role model about the move. We find that the children transition very easily and the transition

is most effective when parents talk about the experience in a positive, exciting and fun light. Children sense if their parents are unsure in any way and in turn will behave in a way that reflects this sense of unease. Without a doubt, the children that have the most positive experience are those whose parents are relaxed, don't make a big deal or fuss and instill a sense of fun about any change. A good thing to remember about our children is that no matter how strong certain behaviours are displayed at home, they do not necessarily always cross over to all environments. Children can be amazingly capable and resilient if we show them how. If parents have any concerns about changes, we suggest that you approach your child's new teacher and start your new partnership off with a reassuring get-to-know each other chat.



Once families have read the information attached to this newsletter we will be seeking further input and thoughts from you as to how we can best reflect in our Centre Philosophy the implementation of the Emergent Curriculum.....

EMERGENT CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Please take the time to have a read of the information sheet attached with this newsletter about our new programming system being introduced in 2008. You will notice come the new year that each room's notice boards will look quite different and you will no longer be receiving sheets from your child's focus teacher asking for ideas of what to program for the children. As you will learn from reading the information about the Emergent Curriculum the children lead this learning and the staff act as facilitators that scaffold or build on their learning experiences. Have a read - we think it is amazingly exciting!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

December



- * Xavier turned 1
- * Cameron turned 1
- * Isobel turned 3
- * Gerry turned 4
- * Isaac turned 4
- * Jaide turned 4
- * Josh turned 5
- * Jasmine turned 5



Latest Editions...

More beautiful babies, how lovely....

Welcome to Tilly Rose, a gorgeous second daughter for Kirilli and Michael and little sister for Joe, Isobel (Joeys) and Ollie - well done!

Congratulations to Sharon and Steve on the arrival of their third little boy Nathan, a little brother to Thomas and Luke (Wallabies)

It's off to school we go....

Alexander, Alissa, Jasmine, Jack, Declan, Audrey, Maicee, Ned, Caleb, Mia, Josh, Bailey, Lucas, Ruby, Finn

We wish the following friend lots of fun at other preschools:

Jemima, Isobel, Shea, Egan, Emily, Lili, Luke

....we will miss you all!!!

*We wish all our children & families a safe and loving Xmas and New Year
Team Elder Street xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*