Program
Welcome back!! We hope your child enjoyed their first week of Kindergarten. It was a pity the weather was so hot and limited the amount of outside play. They did enjoy the small opportunity on Wednesday and had a ball with the different water play activities we set up, including using the new creek with water!
We have 16 very eager and enthusiastic children start Kindy this year as well as 3 staff members who are excited to be working with them. As we said in the letter sent home a couple weeks ago, we have some new ideas which we are looking forward to introducing!
This term because everyone is new, including some of the staff, we have decided to look at ourselves, our families, homes and community. We believe that it is important for everyone to get to know a little bit more about each other. We will also start Library this week on Wednesday. So please ensure that your child has a named library bag.
Please bear with us as we ‘learn the ropes’! If there is something we have forgotten or you aren’t sure what’s happening, please don’t hesitate to ask. The door is always open!
Please read the rest of the newsletter carefully as it goes over some general housekeeping and expectations.

Parking
Parking at the Kindy for dropping off and picking up your child is available in the Kindy car park and directly across the road from the Kindy. Parking in front of the Kindy is strictly prohibited as this is where the school buses park.

Lunchboxes
As it was outlined when you enrolled your child, we have a Healthy Food Policy. As part of this policy it is expected that the children will bring at least 1 piece of fruit to eat at snack time. We understand that sometimes children can be fussy with what they eat, so we are more than happy for children to eat vegetables as well. We also discourage the eating of chocolate and other processed foods that are high in sugar and salt and request that no cordial is sent in water bottles. We will send home with newsletters different lunchbox ideas that are healthy and easy to make. If you have any recipes that you would like to share with other families, please let Kindy staff know and we will include it in the next newsletter.

Kindy Clothes
Just a reminder to send your child in comfortable play clothes. Please don’t send them in really good clothes as there is the possibility that they could get dirty. We do have Kindy clothing available for purchase to help save other clothes. If you are interested in purchasing tops, jumpers or hats please see staff about this on Mondays after the Kindy session has finished. We have noticed that some of the Kindy clothes are getting down in stock and we may need to purchase some more. If you think you will need to purchase polo’s, jumpers or hats, please fill out the slip at the bottom of the newsletter and return to Kindy staff as soon as possible.
We also encourage children to wear shoes that are suitable and comfortable. By suitable we mean shoes that will stay on when running, climbing, etc and won’t slip off.

Visitors
If you are visiting the Kindy during the Kindy day, we ask that you sign in using our visitors book. It is an Education Department requirement that all visitors to the site sign in on arrival. The sign in book is located on the kitchen bench. You don’t, however, need to sign in when dropping off or picking up your child, unless you will be staying for a longer period of time. Please make sure you pass this information on to your family and friends. If you have any questions about this, please see Kindy staff.
Variation in Pick up
If you are unable to pick your child up at the end of the Kindy session and have organised someone else to do it, please let Kindy staff know either through a phone call, in your child’s communication book or filling out the Variation of Pick up book (located on the kitchen bench). If someone comes to collect your child and we haven’t been informed, we will not release your child until we have made contact with you. So please make sure you always let us know of any changes to the way your child is getting home.

Pick up
We ask that you are prompt when picking up your child at the end of the session. This means 12 noon on Mondays and 3pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you are more than 5 minutes late you will receive a phone call. It can be quite distressing for the children if everyone else has gone and they are the only ones left.

Sun protection
As stated in our Skin Protection Policy, it is encouraged that children come to Kindy with sunscreen already applied. Can you please ensure that your child has sunscreen applied in the mornings. We understand that the mornings can be busy and you run out of time to do this. So if you have forgotten, let us know and we will have a bottle of sunscreen for you to use to apply sunscreen to your child in the morning. We will then reapply it during the day as required. If your child has sensitive skin, please provide your own sunscreen.

Books
Twice a term you will receive Scholastic Book Club brochures for you to have a look through and purchase books. These are a fantastic way to build up your home library for your child/ren. They have a great range of books to suit all ages and even better, they are at great prices!! For each book ordered the Kindy receives a credit, which we can use to purchase books and other resources for the Kindy. Please remember to take notice in the newsletter and on the brochures of the due date so you don’t miss out.
We also have books sent to us from Top Tales. These come usually once a term and you are able to see these at the Kindy. We display these on the coloured cupboards just inside the front door. Again these are great books at great prices! If you have any questions about either Scholastic or Top Tales please come and speak to Ros.

Catastrophic Fire Days
With the bushfire season upon us, we thought we should remind parents that the Kindergarten does not close on forecast catastrophic days. However NO buses will be able to run on these days. On these days parents will need to make the decision to transport children to Kindergarten or keep them home. The announcement of these days cannot be made until DECD is notified of the following day’s forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology after 4pm. The Kindergarten will make every effort to contact parents once the announcement has been made. Information will also be provided on the DECD Parent Hotline 1800 000 279, ABC radio 891 and local regional stations, ABC TV and the DECD website www.decd.sa.gov.au Please see our recently updated Hot weather policy, (which is attached) for more details.

Philmac Grant
Last year we applied for a grant through the Philmac Project. We were extremely lucky to be shortlisted to go in the running to win $5,000. We find out this Thursday 6th February, if we were successful in winning the grant. We will let you know how we go. So fingers and toes crossed!!

Kitchen
As you would be aware, we are getting our kitchen renovated. At this stage we are still waiting for an exact start date but it will be in February/March. We have requested that the work start on a Tuesday to allow us time to clean everything out of the kitchen on the Monday. Unfortunately this means that we will have to close the building and will not be able to offer Kindy on the Tuesday or Wednesday of that week. This has been taken out of our hands and we have to work with the dates we are given. We are looking into whether we can make up some of the lost Kindy time. We will keep you informed as to what is happening and when!
We are also going to need help to clean out all the kitchen cupboards and drawers and move furniture. If you are able to help us, can you please let Kindy staff know.

Website
Just a reminder that the Kindy now has its own website, where you will find important information about the Kindy, current newsletters and photos of the children. The web address is www.pinnaroo kgn.sa.edu.au

Governing Council Meeting
The next Governing Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 11th February at 7pm at the Kindergarten. All apologies to Hedy/Amanda or Kate Nickolls.
**Ipads**
During the holidays, we purchased 2 Ipads for the Kindy. We were able to purchase this through the generous donation from Helen Lockwood and Jill Nickolls and money raised from the Strawberry Fete stall. We hope to have this up and running for the children and staff to use in the coming weeks. If you have come across any great educational apps, please let us know.

**Kindy Fees:**
Kindy Fees were set at the AGM last year and this year will be $90 per term, plus a once off Literacy Kit fee of $10. You will receive an invoice for the fees very soon and we would appreciate payment as soon as possible. If you cannot afford the whole amount all at once please see Hedy or Amanda and we can work out another payment option.

**Kindy Attendance**
If your child is absent from Kindy due to illness, appointments or family reasons, can you please let us know with a phone call or note. We ask that if you child has vomited, had diarrhoea and/or has green mucus the day or night before Kindy that you do not send them to Kindy the next day. We do not want everyone coming down with it! We need to record all the absences as our Kindy is staffed on attendance not on enrolments.

**Washing Roster**
Below is the washing roster. We ask that one family a week washes the smocks and tea towels and returns them to Kindy the following Monday. The washing will be sent home on Wednesdays, other than week 11 which will be the Tuesday. If you have any questions please see a staff member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kai Lloyde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Leevi Bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ethan Hyde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Laila Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jack Nickolls</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rachel Moyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cooper Biggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hannah Kulper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maddison Gum</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Jasmine Thiel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Sharing Roster**
This year we have decided to set a topic for each weeks sharing. We ask that you follow the weeks and help your child bring in something to share relating to the set topic. Can you please discourage your child from bringing other toys in their bag to Kindy. We have found in the past that if we don’t know these things are there, they tend to get lost or broken, so it is easier if they are left at home and only things relating to their sharing are bought in on their set day. The sharing will start in Week 3. Please see the roster below. A laminated list of topics will also be sent home separately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Something from before Kindy started eg. Holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Photo or drawing of your family</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Something green</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Favourite small toy</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Something from your garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Something that starts with the first letter of your name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Anything blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Picture or drawing of your favourite animal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Child’s name ____________________________**
I will require the following Kindy clothes
Polo_____________________________________
Jumper___________________________________
Hat_______________________________________

Please indicate size and colour. If you need help with these please see a staff member.
IDEAS FOR HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

It is possible to pack your child a nutritious lunch box that will actually come home at the end of the day empty and eaten.

Try these tips:

- Think about what your child likes to eat at home and try to translate that into a lunch box option.
- Vegetables are often overlooked in the lunch box. Try cutting up some carrot sticks or putting in a handful of cherry tomatoes.
- While the humble apple is a great lunch box filler (sturdy and hard to squash), consider cutting fruit up and putting it into a smaller container for protection. Berries and kiwi fruit survive very well this way.
- Dairy can be hard to include, particularly in hot weather. If you can't safely get yoghurt into the lunch box, make sure you offer dairy when your child comes home from school.
- Last night's leftovers in a container with a small spoon can make a welcome change to sandwiches.
- Try putting together a small picnic in their lunch box - slices of tomato, ham, grated carrot, grated cheese and some bread and butter - so they can build their own sandwich.
- Stick to water in the drink bottle - most juices are full of sugar and make the drink-bottle smelly. They also don't do a very good job of quenching thirst.
- Homemade pikelets are a great snack - easy to make ahead of time, they're filling and don't require any extra toppings.


EASY SCHOOL LUNCH MUESLI BARS RECIPE

Muesli bars are an easy snack to put in your child’s lunch box each day. Use the muesli bar recipe as a blueprint and add your favourite dried fruits to the mixture – but stay away from adding nuts too if your school is a nut-free zone.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups rolled oats
- 1 ¼ cups rice bubbles (puffed rice)
- ½ cup ‘craisins’ (dried cranberries)
- ½ cup currants (Julie uses 1 cup of sultanas instead of craisins/currants)
- ½ cup desiccated coconut
- 1/4 cup sesame seeds
- 1/4 cup sunflower seeds (or linseeds)
- 150g butter, diced
- 2/3 cup honey
- 1/3 cup caster sugar

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C. If using fan-forced, 160°C.

Grease a lamington pan or one of similar sizing and line with greaseproof/baking paper. Grease the paper over the top to hold in place.

Mix the oats, rice bubbles, craisins, currants, coconut, sesame seeds and sunflower seeds in a large bowl. Heat the butter, sugar and honey in a saucepan, melt the butter and stir to combine all ingredients, simmer until mixture becomes more syrupy and honeycomb colour. Take off the heat.

Stir liquid gradually into the dry ingredients and when well combined, spoon into pan/tin. Press down well... put into the oven for 20 minutes. The mix should be golden brown on top when you take it out of the oven. Cool in the tray.

Notes:

- The perfect snack for lunch boxes that the kids can help you make beforehand.
- Can be converted to nut-free/egg-free, but very carefully check all ingredients beforehand for nut or egg traces.
- Different dried fruit can be easily substituted for the above selections, so do try different versions with the kids to find their favourites.
- This recipe was created by Melissa Klemke for Kidspot, Australia’s best recipe finder.