



Giraffe Early Learning Centre

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our July newsletter. We have had a very busy month at Giraffe trying to keep warm with this cold winter.

We would like to welcome a lovely new staff member to our Giraffe team. Kathryn will be in the preschool room, she is diploma trained with 3 ½ years of experience. She also is in her last year studying her Bachelor of Education degree at Macquarie University. Please feel free to introduce yourself, she is very keen to meet all the parents.

Fee Increase

As most of you will be aware, as of the 12th July, due to increasing cost there will be an increase in fees. The fees listed below are our new daily fees.

Room	Fee – with direct debit
Nursery (0-2)	\$107
Toddlers (2-3)	\$97
Preschoolers (3-5)	\$94

Extra Days

We would like to remind parents that if you require any extra 'casual days' at the centre, these requests need to be put in writing. We are more than happy to cater for extra days if we have them available, however if you ask for your child to be booked in for the extra day and then at the last minute need to cancel unfortunately you will still be charged for the position.

Just a quick reminder to parents to please ensure that if you are sending along a clearly named water bottle with your children each day, could you please also ensure that these water bottles are taken home at the end of each daily visit to be cleaned.

Thank you
All the team at Giraffe

Inside this issue

PG

Reminders to Parents	1
Alphatykes	2
Centre Availability	2
Babies Room News	3
Toddler's Room News	4
Pre school Room News	5
Preschool Room News	6
Nutrition	7

Alphatykes News

The children have now finished learning about "Les Animaux a la Maison" (animals at home) in their French classes. The children loved this module especially the children who have pets of their own at home. They enjoyed learning about dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, fish and much more! With in this 5 week module the children were exposed to 50 new words and core phrases that are perfect for everyday use including "Goodbye" "Good morning" "Excellent" "see you tomorrow" and " I love...". In this module we were also introduced to the colours black and brown and the number five.

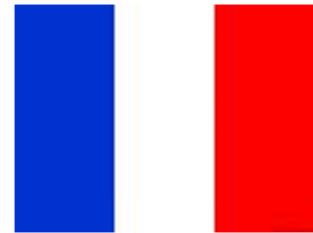
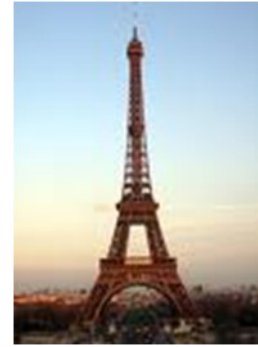
We are now looking forward to next term and starting our new module "Ma Maison" (My house). This module is a great for making the children's new language practical and will give them lots of opportunity to use their new language in day to day situations. We are all very excited. We sadly say goodbye to our French teacher Elodie , we wish her all the best in her new position. We look forward to meeting our new teacher next term.

Centre Availability

We have days available in most of the rooms throughout the centre. If you would like to pick up an extra permanent day these days will be available as of the 1st Month year.

Room/ Days	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Babies					
Toddler	*	*	*	*	*
Preschool	*	*	*	*	*

* Indicates availability on that day
Please Note: These vacancies may change daily.



Philosophy, Broad Goals and Policy Reviews

This month we will be focusing on reviewing our Food & Nutrition Policy

Our centre food & nutrition policies are
1.1 – 1.12.

These policies can be found in the foyer.

Please feel free to read the policies each month and offer feedback.

Lion's and Panda Room (Nursery) News

A warm hello to our Lion and Panda families.

The Lions would like to welcome Sibella, Malaika, Adler, Isabella Pritchard, Isabella Pincock, Lucas, Saxon, Aspen, Zuri and all their families in the nursery.

A big happy birthday to May and Adler turning 1!! All children are settling in and interacting with carers and other children in a positive way.

This month the lions were introduced to the bigger soft stacking blocks. This building activity helps children with their grip and hand and eye co ordination skills of picking up larger objects. This activity also encourages social interactions and team building skills between the children.

For the younger less mobile children they are happy observing the blocks being built up and knocked down whilst listening to the carers sing songs such as 'build it up'.

The centre has also been given a bumbo chair which is a chair for the babies who are learning how to sit up. They love being in this seat and watching what goes on around the room.

A Big thank you to everyone for bringing your children dressed in red on the 25th for SIDS and for the donations. We enjoyed some red painting activities.

Thank you

Sam and Fabiola

Hello from the Panda's

This month we welcome Kai, Gypsy, Harrison and their families to our room.

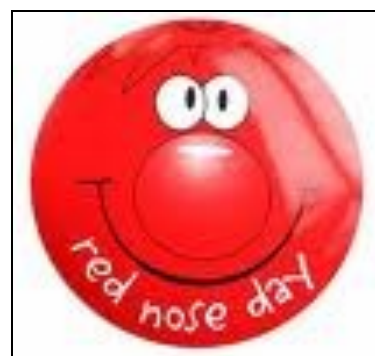
We celebrated red nose day on the 25th June by all wearing red. We did lots of fun activities including painting our noses red.

Congratulations to Emily and Caleb's families on the arrivals of their new baby girls.

We also welcome Ashley and Keira from the baby room.

Thank you

Jo and Melissa



Koala News (Toddler Room)

Hello to our wonderful families,

A big warm welcome to our new friends Daniel & James De Pater.

For the month of June the Koala's have been engaging in various activities and themes such as:

Learning the concept of time and reading the clock.

Furthering our knowledge about our different types of shapes and colours and implementing various activities to further the children's knowledge.

Our introduction to hygiene went well. Talking about the importance of washing our hands before meal times and the importance of sun protection including sunscreen and hats while enjoying outdoor play.

Finally our introduction about transport went down a treat. The children were very interested while we read stories and sang songs to develop their knowledge on this topic. Our favourites were buses, trains, cars, bicycles and aeroplanes. We had lots of fun as we engaged in these activities.

We look forward to the month of July we will be introducing and learning about our different cultures, food and cultural songs, dance and stories. Australia is such a wonderful multicultural country we believe that we should embrace these wonderful cultures and offer the children these opportunities.

Please feel free to come and chat to us if you have any ideas or interests. We are more than happy to take your thoughts on board.

Thank you

Tiara and Shona

Quote of the month

"Listen to the desires

of your children.

Encourage them

and then give

them the autonomy

to make their

own decision"

Dennis Waitley

The Elephants News (4 – 5year olds)

Dear Parents,

Hi, my name is Kathryn (or Kat) and I'm the new teacher in the Preschool room for 4 – 5 year olds.

What we will be doing in the preschool room...

Over the next few months we will be creating some school rules and trying to stick to them. I will be implementing a new school readiness program based around the English and Maths syllabuses used in schools. This encourages the familiarity with numbers 0 – 10 and communicating with others in various ways.

We also will be learning about letters using the Letterland phonics system. This is an introduction to letters and sounds which progresses to spelling and reading. Through this system the children also begin to learn how to write letters using New South Wales foundation font which is taught in schools.

I also expect in the near future to create some project books based on the children's interests, where the children progressively add what they know about certain topics to each book.

You are more than welcome to come and chat to me about any of the changes that are happening or if you have any suggestions that you would like me to add to the program.

Thank you
Kathryn



Kathryn (Kat)

I have been working in various preschool rooms over the past 3½ years as a room leader.

I hold a diploma in children's services.

I am about half way through completing my Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) at Macquarie University.

I love music and spent quite a few years learning piano and flute. So expect to see and hear your children singing new songs as I love doing music and group times.

I also love chocolate (perhaps a little to much) and will always be up for having a hot chocolate whenever the opportunity arises.

The Monkey's Room News (3-4year olds)

We would like to send out a big warm welcome to our new families and their children Clancy, Taylor and Lucas who have joined our classroom. We would also like to send a big welcome to Indira who has moved up from the toddler's room to our preschool room.

This month our play focus has been dramatic play, Often the place where the most imaginative and involved play occurs. This experience allows children to use movement, objects and costumes to assist in portraying roles and situations in symbolic play.

This experience allows children to:

- Understand and experience the adult world through imitation
- Express feelings and emotions
- Experience a sense of power by imitating grown-ups
- Develop creativity and imagination

Experience different roles

The children have been enjoying this experience through both indoor and outdoor home corners and in the sandpit!

We have also been focusing on our fine motor skills through Cutting and Pasting this helps to develop basic maths skills such as geometry (size and shape) and measuring. This activity also encourages problem solving and concentration skills, which happens as children learn to take what is in their head, and put it onto paper. In the early years children need to ask themselves basic questions like will this glue be strong enough or if I cut here will it fit? In solving these problems they learn about the creative thinking process.

Cutting and pasting also helps to develop fine motor skills in young children, which in turn helps them to be writing-ready as they near school age. We have been cutting out shapes and letters as well as our favourite toys from toy magazines.

Next month we will be working on producing our own little herb garden in the veranda off of our classroom. We will be painting pots to plant the herbs in and focusing on what it takes to care for herbs to make them grow. We are all excited and looking forward to this experience J

Thank you
Koby and Vanessa.



FROM THE KITCHEN:

Recipe of the Month

Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry with Vegies & Hokkien Noodles

Ingriedients

- 500g of snow peas or beans
- 2 white onions, chopped
- 1 kg of frozen mixed vegetables
- 3 tablespoons of olive oil
- 5 jars of Teriyaki chicken stir fry sauce
- 3 tablespoons of soy sauce
- 2.5kg of hokkien noodles
- 3 kg of chicken, diced

Directions

1. Heat the oil in large saucepan over medium heat. Add the chicken and cook until browned.
2. Add the onions and cook over low heat until soft.
3. Boil the frozen vegetables and add the snow peas for a couple of minutes then drain, set aside.
4. Add the vegetables to the chicken and onions and mix together.
5. Pour in the Teriyaki sauce and soy sauce, stirring until all ingredients are combined. Simmer on low heat for 10 minutes.
6. Boil the hokkien noodles, cook, drain
7. Serve the chicken and vegetables with the noodles.

Enjoy!

*

Please feel free to ask Muhammad for any recipies that we cook at the centre, he will give you a copy.

