

# Win Newby

  
**Kindergarten**

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## Week 9 Term 1 2017

**Newsletter:**  
 Monday 27th  
 March 2017

### Harmony Week Celebrations

This week is Harmony Week. We look forward to celebrating diversity in all it's forms. Last week staff placed a letter in pigeon holes about our Harmony Week celebrations including celebrating diversity through traditional foods, greetings, customs etc. We would love to hear what your family do to celebrate your cultural values and beliefs. Don't forget to pack healthy orange foods and wear orange clothing. We will also have orange foods available to share with the children.

*'everyone belongs'*



### Easter Raffle

Thank you to the families who have already donated an Easter item to our raffle. This week you will receive a raffle book in your pigeon holes. We do have spare booklets if you would like some more. The tickets are 50c each and there is a book of 10. The total of the book is \$5. You have until the end of week 10 (7th April) to bring in a donation, as the Governing council will be putting our hampers together in the following week.



Donations can include Easter eggs, bunnies etc. or even plush Easter items, Easter making items etc.

### Kindy Fees

Thank you to those families that have paid their term 1 kindy fees. Later this week reminder notices will go out regarding payments to those families who have not yet completed this terms payments. Please note that families who attend full days and have not paid fees will lose their lunch care service, so please make payment promptly.

### Governing Council News

Our first Governing council meeting for the year is this Wednesday evening 29th March from 7:30pm. Could all new members please RSVP their attendance to Candice, thank you. We have a lot of items on the agenda to discuss, including finalising positions within the Council.

### Nature Play

Last Wednesday evening staff attended a Nature Play professional learning time with Jason Tyndall from Nature Play SA and Simon Hutchison from Climbing Trees. As a site we have already engaged in learning with these two gentleman before, in fact, Simon was the person who helped formulate our Outdoor Learning Area upgrade plan, which is on display on the red board outside for you to see. It was great to reinforce the idea of 'getting back to nature' as we know many families lead very busy lives, and it is getting harder and harder for children to access quality experiences in the great outdoors! This is one of the main reasons why we want to upgrade our learning environment. To give children these experiences of engaging their senses in nature. Smell the smells, feel the natural resources with their hands, feet, all over their skin. Listen to the sounds, the wind, the birds chirping, the leaves rustling etc. To see all there is to see, the colours, to be curious of our environment! **Research shows that children need authentic learning experiences that immerse them in nature that will help them grow into strong, healthy and resilient young people of the future!** This is why we ask families to please pack spare clothes as we will be engaging in mud play this term. We will also be using water and other natural elements! If you have any questions, please see staff!



### Diary Dates

- ♦ Harmony Week—27th—31st March
- ♦ Governing Council Meeting—Wednesday 29th March at 7:30pm.
- ♦ Last day of term 1—Thursday 13th March 9 (10th is Good Friday)
- ♦ Term 2 commences—Monday 1st May.



### FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

Generally speaking, most parents teach their children to write letters before writing numerals. Writing letters is important, but have you thought???? There are 26 letters in the English alphabet. Children need to learn to write 26 lower case letters and 26 upper case letters, that's 52 letters in total. If you teach your child to write ten digits: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 They will be able to write an infinite number of numerals: 36, 100, 286 etc..

## Curriculum Information

Literacy Focus—'I use language to connect with my world'

Numeracy Focus—'I explore and understand my place and space in the world'

### Loose Parts Play = Creativity + Discovery + Imagination

Children have had the opportunity to explore not only large item loose play, but small item loose play in all of the learning environments at kindy. Children engage in loose parts play, because there is no particular purpose for the materials. They can take the form of sticks, stones, logs, pebbles, stumps, shells etc. They can be moved,



stacked, carried, combines, collected, taken apart and put back together. Children are drawn to loose parts play because, unlike traditional toys that have limited flexibility and play options, loose parts allow children to use their creativity to experiment and to choose how they are going to use an item in their play experience. Children have made sprint cars and camping grounds of late. This play and learning allows children to enhance learning dispositions such as creativity, imagination and it encourages persistence and resilience. The literacy and numeracy learning is endless. Children are able to notice, wonder, sort, compare, visualise, generalise, communicate, create and make meaning and reflect critically.



### Outcome 2—Children are connected with and contribute to their world

#### Excursion—visits to see the Elderly at Yeltana

In order for children to explore diversity, culture and become aware of the connections and similarities between people we are engaging with our elderly community through visits to the local nursing homes. We have divided our children into 3 main groups to participate in this as we will not all be going at once as we will not all fit in the room at the nursing home sites, and it will be too overwhelming not only for the residents but also the children. Our morning group of children went on Friday 17th March and spent about 45 minutes with a group of residents. They participated in a variety of craft activities together, read stories and sang songs. It was such a great way for the children to recognise age and the growing process as well as connect with others. The group of about 20 children enjoyed this opportunity they have had, and Kay has been busily getting children to recount their experience and turn this into a community book to share.



Next Visits and groups: Our next visits will be on: Tuesday 23rd May at 1:30pm for the afternoon group and Wednesday 7th June at 1:30pm for the full day group. We are in consultation with the homes and are arranging another time for the Tuesday/Thursday full day group. More information will come to light as the dates get closer.

