

LAVERTON COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

Hello Families,

I know you are all busy preparing for the holidays, so I will keep this brief. We have had a busy month preparing our kindergarten children for school next year. Although we are very sad to see them go, we wish them all the very best as they embark on their school transition, and know they will be secure and confident learners due to having such a holistic start to their learning adventure with our amazing team. As you are aware we are holding a Kinder graduation as well as a family end of year celebration.

The dates for this are as follows:

Integrated Kindergarten graduation:

Date: Friday 9/12/22

Time: 4pm- 5pm

(Directly prior to the family end of year celebration)

Sessional 4 year old Kinder graduation:

Date: 15th of December

Time: 1:30pm -2:30pm

You may have noticed our community pantry, clothes swap and book swap. Please take what you need and leave what you don't. We will also be collecting gift donations for children in need, feel free to donate.

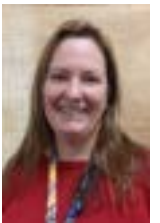
The big gum tree out the back of the children's centre has been cut down due to it being diseased, this was a very exciting experience for the children to observe and then discuss. We are now looking forward to seeing what Tina and bobby are going to create for the children to further develop their risk taking skills.

I hope you all have a well deserved break over the holiday season and we look forward to seeing you when you return. There will be some slight changes to educators in each room which you will be advised on prior to your return. Thanks.

Krystle and Michelle



Krystle
Manager



Michelle
Manager



Melanny
Assistant
Manager

MESSAGE FROM TINA:

As the end of the year approaches, educators and children are busy preparing for the Christmas party celebration. At Laverton community children's centre, we are such a diverse culture. This gives opportunities to celebrate and share festivals within the centre all year round. Celebrating diversity through recognising a range of cultural festivals and practices provide children with a fundamental understanding of the way that culture and community influence and impact us.

Cultural celebrations foster respect and open-mindedness for other cultures. Children's self-confidence and expressive language skills are promoted as they share their cultural beliefs with their peers. By offering children the opportunity of sharing the joy of others' festivals and celebrations, we can give them a gateway into a world of mutual understanding and shared human values.

This month, some educators have attended professional development creating engaging environments for children and visited the Farm Kinder in Altona. We are looking forwards to providing quality educational programs to children next year.



Tina
Educational
Leader



Aryani
Team Leader.
Diploma



Christina
Cert III-
qualified



Inson
Diploma-
qualified



Helene
Diploma-
qualified



BABIES (0-2 YEARS OLD)

We made Christmas tree and decorate it with colourful paper that we cut into pieces. This activity encourages children to play and experiment in a fun and relaxed environment.



TODDLERS (2-3 YEARS OLD)

Room 3

This month we focused learning about Germs and how to keep us healthy and safe. We watched stories about germs, washing hands, and healthy eating. We talked about the germs everyday in the group time such as how to wash hands, what to do when we cough, and what we should do if we get sick. Children were so excited while we watched and sang together hand washing songs. We printed some pictures of germs and did paste the picture on the paper, did draw on the germs paper too. We were learning that when we cough, we should cover our mouth by our elbow.



Eti
Diploma-qualified



Lady Djam
Cert III – qualified



Sukanya
Cert III - qualified



Room 4

In November, we focused on the main learning outcome of “Understanding Animals and Their Sounds.” From farm animals such as cows, chickens, ducks, horses, pigs and sheep, to jungle animals such as gorillas and tigers, children learnt to recognise distinctive features of them. This was consolidated through various craft activities; one in particular being making their own “hand monkeys” to recognise unique features such as the monkeys’ wide-set ears and long, curly tail. Children also learnt to pair animal images/toys with their sounds; the cow can go “moo”, whilst the duck goes “quack.” This learning outcome benefits children in that they are able to understand the importance of animals and our relationships with them; for example, a sheep is important because they create wool for our clothes, or a chicken because they lay eggs for us! This learning focus also helps build empathy, interest, and appreciation towards the diverse life that children don’t see at home. To foster imagination and communication skills in children, they played with a variety of farm toys. Inventing worlds where their animals talk and play around, the children engage with each other well, improving language skills and encouraging inquisitiveness.



Jessica
Diploma-qualified



Ira
Cert III - qualified



Kate
Trainee

In the lead-up to the festivities in December, the children in Room 4 started activities to prepare for Christmas. Arts and crafts included making Holly from coloured paper and mixed media, decorating Christmas Trees with a dash of each child's unique colourful personality, and gathering Christmas pictures to recognise the familial importance of the celebration. Together, this fosters the children's curiosity towards the holiday, as well as building an understanding of Christmas traditions and sparking anticipation.



Room 5

This month in Room 5, we worked on the fine motor abilities of the children by giving them lots of enjoyable hands-on activities. The little muscles that govern the hand, fingers, and thumb are referred to as having fine motor skills. These abilities enable a child to perform crucial tasks including feeding themselves, buttoning, zipping clothing and writing. Through practice and exposure to a range of toys, objects, and even foods, these skills steadily improve. To aid children in the development of their fine motor abilities, we encouraged them to play, explore, and participate in a variety of activities. To support the development of their fine motor skills, we provided children with tactile activities like cutting, pasting, sorting, painting, molding, writing, constructing, cooking, watering, and tracing.



Mamta
Diploma-qualified



Li Chen
Cert III - qualified



Shreya
Cert III - Qualified



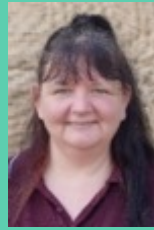
INTEGRATED KINDER (3-5 YEARS OLD)



Jiayu (Jay)
Kindergarten
Teacher



Jenny
Cert III-qualified



Kerry
Diploma-
qualified



Narelle
Diploma-
qualified



Ann
Cert III-qualified

As the end of the year is coming soon, the kinder children have been very busy with preparing their gifts and cards to take home at the end of this year. Kinder children are enjoying decorating the Christmas tree and the kinder room with various craft work. Moreover, the kinder children have been practicing some songs for the end of year concert which may surprise you in December. Other than Christmas and the end of year party, the children have been learning about gender identity from a book called Being You. Reading this book with the children increases their self-awareness, self-esteem, and allows them to recognise and confront things that are unfair, like discrimination and prejudice.

The 4 year old children have started their orientation in schools and getting familiar with the school environment. They have been practicing how to pack their lunchboxes and backpacks before they go home at the end of the day in kinder. They also have shared their orientation experience such meeting new teachers and friends, playing in the big playground, making crafts in schools with their kinder peers during group time.

The kinder children are very looking forward to the Traffic School excursion and the end of year concert in December.



SESSIONAL KINDERGARTEN (3 YEARS OLD)

We have been busy creating artwork using arts and crafts. We have been very keen on doing more songs and dance, which engages children's brain, develops their creativity, language, communication, physical skills and memory skills. As we are approaching summer, we are learning about being Sunsmart and how to keep safe. We had the Wayapa incursion and learned about our earth and Aboriginal culture. We are excited to go to our excursions to Essendon Traffic School to celebrate the end of the year!



Zenith
Kindergarten
Teacher



Michelle S.
Co-Educator



SESSIONAL KINDERGARTEN (4 YEARS OLD)

We have been busy in the room creating Christmas decorations, making salt dough candy Christmas ornaments, reading the Nutcracker (Story Orchestra): Press the Note to Hear Tchaikovsky's Classical Music. Children enjoyed listening to the various classical music when they pressed the button in each page. This was a lovely way to introduce classical tunes through story telling for the children and they enjoyed it so much during group time! A summary about the story, is that In the 'Nutcracker Story Orchestra' comes the story of Clara and her magical Christmas adventure. Clara's godfather, a toymaker, arrives with gifts, including a very special one for her-a wooden nutcracker carved in the shape of a little man. After Fritz, her brother breaks it, the children are sent to bed. In the morning of Christmas Eve, 'Clara' in her dreams, battles and defeats a mouse king, then travels with her nutcracker-turned-prince to the Land of Sweets where she watches its enchanting inhabitants perform beautiful dances. Children went through the magical scenes, where they pressed the buttons to hear 10 excerpts from the ballet's music, including "The Waltz of the Flowers," "The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," "The Russian Dance," and the awesome "Finale." The book encourages interactive learning and introduced children to classical music. There was also a biography of the composer, 'Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky', with details about his composition of The Nutcracker ballet. Children could replay the musical excerpts and read a discussion of the instruments, rhythms, and musical techniques that made them so powerful. Children have been asking for this storybook during group times a couple of times.

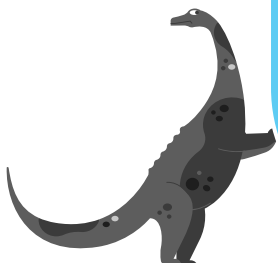
We have also organised an excursion to 'Essendon Traffic School' for children to learn about road safety just in time for school since most of our kindergarten children are going off to school soon. Children are anxious, excited, and chatting to each other about school orientations and who their teacher will be next year. We have read stories about 'Preparing for school' and discussed what new things we will see and making new friends and meeting old ones and learning new things to help children understand the concept of primary school.



Cathy
Kindergarten
Teacher



Kanthi
Diploma-
qualified



We are also preparing the children for the 'End of year party' on the 9th December 22 and the 'Graduation Concert' on the 15th December 2022. Children have been practicing their 'Inanay Capuwana' and 'Auslan' songs for the concert and enjoying it.

Lastly, the 'sessional kindergarten 4' team would like to thank all families for a wonderful year and congratulations for graduating! We know that your children will thrive in their next chapter of school! You will be missed! Our last day of kindergarten will be on the 19th December 2022.



MESSAGE FROM THE KITCHEN

RECIPE: Honey & Ginger Tofu Stir Fry

Serves: 5

Ingredients:

5g garlic, crushed

20 g ginger, grated

25 g honey

20 mL reduced salt, soy sauce

50 mL water

50 mL rice wine vinegar

30 mL olive oil

425 g tofu, diced

150 g rice noodles

295 g asparagus, ends removed, cut into 2cm

240 g carrots, diced

40 g spring onions, sliced finely to garnish



*Aki
Cook*



*Kylie
Cook*



METHODS

1. In a food processor, puree the garlic, ginger, honey, soy sauce, water, vinegar, and half the oil until smooth and set aside.
2. Heat $\frac{1}{4}$ of the remaining oil in a large frypan over medium heat.
3. Add tofu and $\frac{1}{4}$ sauce.
4. Once the tofu is golden, remove and set aside on paper towel to drain.
5. In a saucepan of boiling water, add noodles and cook as directed on packet. Drain and set aside.
6. Return frying pan to the heat, add the last of the oil, then add the asparagus with another $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sauce.
7. Once the asparagus is tender, add the carrots and toss together, cooking until carrots are tender. Add the tofu and the remaining sauce and heat through.
8. To serve, provide stir fry in large bowls with spoons and spring onions to garnish. Encourage children to self-serve.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Together with our friends, we experienced the dramatic musical. A lot of possibilities for social engagement, pattern and sequence following, eye contact, and group dance style are presented to the children as they learn about New England folk dancing. To aid the children, learn and practise the music beats. All parts of the body, including the head, shoulders, knees, and toes, may feel the rhythm. Children comprehend the meaning of songs and respond with behaviours that they share as a group. The stretchy band is additionally used in music and movement lessons to concentrate on different objectives and movements while also enabling our children to have fun. It helps kids develop their coordination, fine and general motor skills, social skills, and other abilities.

Acknowledgment with country: One of our favourite songs to dance and sing along to while instructing the kids about Australian animals and their movements is "Follow the Animals." Children can use new information in a variety of educational and learning contexts. While participating in this play-based learning, children can arrange, build, manipulate, pretend, explore, examine, create, engage, imagine, negotiate, and make sense of their meaning-making worlds.



Helen
Diploma-qualified



UP AND COMING SPECIAL DAYS: DECEMBER 2022

- Family end of year celebration: Friday 9/12/22 @5pm-7pm
- Integrated Kindergarten graduation: Friday 9/12/22 @4pm- 5pm
- Sessional 4 year old Kinder graduation: Thursday 15/12/22 @ 1:30pm -2:30pm
- End of Term 4: December 20, 2022
- Centre closed:
 - December 23, 2022
 - December 26- 30, 2022
 - January 2, 2023



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