

# LAVERTON COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE

## AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2023



### MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

Hello Families,

I hope everyone is doing well. With spring arriving, we are enjoying the increased opportunities to get outdoors. With sunshine comes an increase in UV, so it is now time to make sure that sunscreen and hats are provided on a daily basis. We have been receiving a lot of fresh bread and vegetables from Bread Hous. Please take advantage of the free food particularly in the current climate. We would like to thank Bread Hous for their generous donations.

Thank you to Marias family from sessional kinder 4 for the very generous donation of the art Easel. The children have been exploring their creative abilities experimenting with colours and textures.

We encourage outdoor play in all seasons due to the valuable learning experiences that can be provided. Please also pack a change of clothes in case children become wet exploring their sensory skills.

The Kindergarten has been adventuring out to bush kinder. This has encouraged the development of the children's imagination, problem solving, resilience and appreciation of nature. It has also worn them out, so hopefully they are getting to bed nice and early for you.

Unfortunately Jaiyu will not be returning to us after her maternity leave. We are wishing her all the very best in spending some time with her new family. We have been lucky enough to see her last week, when she visited the centre with her new bundle of joy.

Thanks:

Michelle, Krystle, and Melanny.



**Krystle**  
Manager



**Michelle**  
Manager



**Melanny**  
Assistant  
Manager

## SPECIAL DAYS: AUGUST 2023

- August 1-7 – Dental Health Week
- August 4 – National Aboriginal & Torres Islander Children's Day
- August 14-18 – National Science Week
- August 21-25 – Children's Book Week

## FUTURE DAYS TO REMEMBER: SEPTEMBER 2023

- September 1 – Special Persons Breakfast/Afternoon Tea
- September 6 – Early Childhood Educators Day
- September 6 – Dental Van
- September 14 – R U OK? Day
  
- September 13 – Sessional 3yr Old Last Day of Term 3
- September 14 – Sessional 4yr Old Last Day of Term 3
- September 15 – Integrated 3yr & 4yr Old Last Day of Term 3

**No sessional Kinder 3 or 4 program between 16<sup>th</sup> of September and returning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October.**

# BABIES (0-2 YEARS OLD)



**Sherry**  
Team Leader



**Inson**  
Co-Educator



**Christina**  
Co-Educator



**Li Chen**  
Co-Educator



**Saraiah**  
Trainee

## ROOM 1 (12 – 24 Months)

August was a hectic but exciting month, consisting of two special events: Science Week and Book Week.

As a part of Science Week, the babies in Room 1 explored the concept of colours-- engaging in fun sensory play of mixing colours, watching how bubbles are created, and popping the bubbles when in contact with their hands. A brief awe-inspiring introduction to the concept of gravity and density was also delivered through making shaving cream 'float' on-top of water, and watching as food colouring falls through the shaving cream to disperse into the water.

Book week consisted of a lot of reading! The babies had so much fun bringing in their favourite books and sharing the reading experience with each other. To encourage Inson's authorship of her new work "Lisa and Jack," we also engaged in reading this book and appreciating its many translations. A beautiful, sunny excursion was arranged for the local Curlew Community Park, where our babies read as a group whilst basking in the melodies of their favourite songs.





**Eti**  
Team Leader



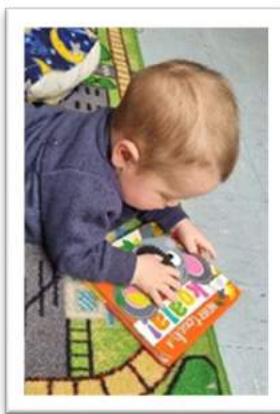
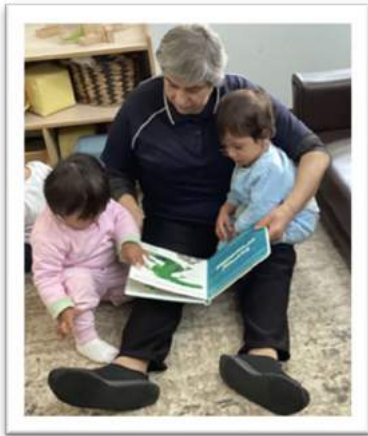
**Helene**  
Co-Educator

## ROOM 2 (6 Weeks– 12 Months)

In August at Room 2 we were so busy with lots of events. We celebrate book week and science week with children. We usually read books with our babies.

On book week was bit special, because we read book which one written by our beautiful Educator Inson. Inson wrote the book and our other educators who translated in their languages, which are English, Hindi, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Bahasa. This book name is "Lisa and Jack". Reading books has lots of benefits for babies. It encourages children to look, point, touch, and answer questions. This helps with social development and thinking skills. Children improves language skills by copying sounds, recognizing pictures, and learning words.

In Room 2 we had 2 babies started. Magnus settled in the room very well. Amneer is settling in the room slowly slowly.



# TODDLERS (2-3 YEARS OLD)

## ROOM 3

This month in room 3 we have been focusing on our numbers, Children love counting and it's important your child gets used to numbers because this will lead on most mathematical skills . Children will often count in order before they understand what the numbers mean. Build – use building blocks, measure length and height, match size and shape, during group time we have been singing songs like the counting songs ' 10 in the bed' ' 5 little ducks' while we show them these songs we like to encourage the children to use their hands to show these numbers visually, we occasionally also use body movements when we do dancing as we also incorporate the numbers into our dance as well.

While learning the numeric numbers we also incorporated it with public speaking, children have been encouraged to stand in front of their peers to say count numbers with their hands!, the children are able to count up to 10 with some of them further.

During the month of august we will have a lot of occasions coming up with science week and Childrens weeks we are so excited to see what is planned for this month!



**Ann**  
Room Leader



**Djamella**  
Co-Educator



**Rahana**  
Co-Educator



## ROOM 4

This month was jam-packed with festivities. Science Week was the beginning of our first celebration. The yearly celebration of science and technology in Australia is known as National Science Week. The purpose of this event is to promote understanding and admiration of science. We engaged in a variety of enjoyable and interesting science-related activities this week, including sink-or-swim, walking water, magic milk, and others.

During Book Week, a time when early childhood programs recognize Australian children's literature by holding dress-up days featuring book characters. As part of our celebration, we dressed up, read books from our home and daycare, watched short films, and made several crafts.

For Father's Day celebration, children made Father's Day cards with amazing dad crafts and special cookies. We had a lot of learning and enjoyable experiences during the month, and we will continue it next month too.



**Mamta**  
Team Leader



**Sukanya**  
Co-Educator



**Jessica**  
Co-Educator





## INTEGRATED KINDER (3-YEARS OLD)



**Jen**  
Kindergarten Teacher



**Deepa**  
Co-Educator



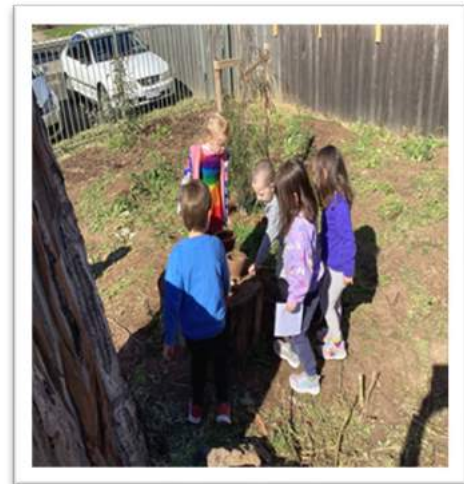
**Catherine**  
Co-Educator



**Inoka**  
Co-Educator

In August, children got busy exploring our new nature play garden onsite at kinder. Collaboratively, we checked our play spaces ensuring that is safe before play and ways to look out for our friends during play. Nature provokes children into thought, action and formulating their own ideas, a great contributor in children's learning independence.

Together with our 4 year old kinder friends, we enjoyed an interactive story telling session for book week alongside dressing up in our favourite marvel characters, with so much pretend and dramatic play that came along with it.



## INTEGRATED KINDER (4-YEARS OLD)



**Pam**  
Kindergarten  
Teacher



**Jenny**  
Co-Educator



**Kerry**  
Co-Educator



**Linh**  
Trainee

We have been celebrating nature while engaging with our Nature Garden and while attending Bush Kindergarten.

Children are developing many skills while in these environments such as problem solving skills, noticing the world around them, improving their wellbeing, physical development, fine and gross motor skills, core strength, co-ordination, balance, eyesight and physical endurance.

Not to mention sharing their commitment to sustainability, and making contributions to Country, caring for and protecting the spaces they enjoy.

This month we have also been very busy with many science experiments, engaging in Children's book week, and engaging in many experiences encouraged through Children's voice.





## SESSIONAL KINDERGARTEN (3-YEARS OLD)

In August, many exciting events were happening across the center. At the beginning of August, we celebrated National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. We enjoyed listening to Emily Warramar's calming songs, reading First Nations books, and playing with plants as a way of connecting to the Land.

As a part of science week, we offered a great range of fun and interactive science experiments including Float and Sink where the children predict what happens to the items they put in the water. We also enjoyed firework-colored experiences using water, oil, and food coloring. The children and educators had a great time exploring and learning together. We also went to our nature garden in our center to learn and play. The children enjoyed playing with mud, sticks, and leaves. We learned about the big tree there through the story Michelle told us. We cuddled the tree to show our appreciation that the tree gave us shade and fresh air over the years. We loved playing in there as it is a way that we connect to nature and the community.



**Lily**  
**Kindergarten**  
**Teacher**



**Michelle S.**  
**Co-Educator**



**Narelle**  
**Nominated**  
**Supervisor**



**Cathy**  
Kindergarten  
Teacher



**Kanthi**  
Co-Educator



**Narelle**  
Nominated  
Supervisor

## SESSIONAL KINDERGARTEN (4-YEARS OLD)

Dear families,

This month, we have been concentrating on the introduction of our native garden here at 'Laverton Community Children's Centre', extracting our honeycombs in our bee conservatory and bush kindergarten at 'A.B. Shaw Reserve'. The last couple of weeks, we explored the bush at the reserve. Children had no toys, no art supplies and no paper. The rain was heavy on and off and the grounds were wet and muddy.

There were a lot of first, and of course children were initially anxious and apprehensive about exploring the reserve. First time sitting on the community minibus to explore the area. First time seeing wild mushrooms, first time hiding and playing hide and seek in the bush, first time sitting and standing in the rain, first time exploring nature at the bush. Both children and adults benefited from using only what nature provided.

Children played in mud, bush and dirt using their imagination to guide them. This taught them of using only what was in the environment. Educators and teachers followed along teaching children facts about the environment conservation and developing their engineering skills such as using sticks to create a little stick tippee. Children explored sticky goey mud, jumped from logs into muddy puddles and tasted the rainwater. With their wild imaginations and curious minds, this natural space became a new world for them to explore, run, climb and play in.

In this environment children also learnt that this is our country and land and we all need to look after it. The bush comes with an Australian folklore behind it and the significance of the land in aboriginal culture. New research shows children who go through bush kinder, gives children a head start in school as they spend more time outdoors and learn lifelong skills.



## EXTRACURRICULAR

In August, I am integrating music, movement, and art classes into our outdoor excursion program. These unique sessions offered children an enriching opportunity to connect with nature while engaging in relaxation exercises guided by soothing sounds. The experience not only heightened their visual perception but also stimulated their sensory cognitive development in multifaceted ways.

As the children embarked on natural walks, they explored their surroundings by collecting fallen nuts and leaves, observing birds perched on trees, and creating intriguing shadows on wooden walls. These experiences served as catalysts for nurturing their artistic talents. To support the children's creative expressions, I incorporated sensory art activities such as painting and collages using natural leaves, barks, sticks as tools. This initiative inspired children across different age groups to delve into creativity, expression, and the visual arts.

Using natural leaves as a medium for sensory painting and collages provided a holistic learning experience. It encouraged a hands-on approach that deepened children's understanding of colour theory, texture, and various artistic techniques. Through this process, children not only explored their artistic potential but also developed cognitive, motor, and social skills that contributed to their holistic growth.

This experience reinforced the notion that the journey of discovery is as valuable as the destination itself, aligning with the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), which emphasises "learning through play."



**Helen**  
*Working towards  
Bachelors*



Sensory art activities such as painting and collages using natural leaves, barks, sticks as tools.



Children creating shadows with their hands using natural sunlight.

