



### ELC News

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year. A warm hello to new families joining the ELC family and welcome back to all past families. We have had a wonderful start to the year. The first few weeks were extremely busy getting everyone connected on Xplor, setting up payments, approving CWA's and having all their entitlements linked. If you have any questions about your subsidy please come and see Kerrie or myself. Thank you for your patience over these first few weeks. We had some new challenges especially as services grow and use the same platforms such as Xplor to record your attendances. It is extremely important that you are signing your children in and out each day as it is now a requirement that all hours of care are reported to the Department of Human Services. This is a mandatory requirement. Please see staff if you require assistance.

On arrival and departure please also inform staff that your child has arrived or is leaving so that we can provide the best care for them and are not looking for children at the end of the day.

Sleep and Rest under the Education and Care Services National Regulations: "The approved provider of an education and care service must take reasonable steps to ensure that the needs for sleep and rest of children being educated and cared for by the service are met, having regard to the ages, development stages and individual needs of the children" (R81). Sleep, rest and relaxation is not just about providing timeout from the busyness of the day, but is critical for children's health, learning and behaviour. Sleep, rest, and relaxation also provide important opportunities for children to discuss and learn about self-regulation and recognising the needs of their bodies. It is for these reasons that we provide children with the opportunity to sleep and rest. After 20 – 30 minutes children will be provided with quiet activities to allow all children to have the opportunity for their rest needs to be met. Please talk to the team if you require further information.



### MUSIC PROGRAM

This will operate on alternate weeks on a Tuesday and Thursday for the children in the Pre Prep rooms. Children will learn about different instruments and basic music concepts.



### JAPANESE PROGRAM

Japanese will run every Friday morning during school terms.

### JESUS TIME

Pastor Nathan, our College Pastor, will visit every Wednesday and alternate weeks will be Pastor Andrew, the Congregation Pastor.

### LIBRARY VISITS

Each class will have opportunity to visit the library during the year, days will change each term. Please see room doors for library days.

### CLOTHING EXCHANGE RACK:

We have introduced a clothing rack in the foyer for families to donate clean clothing that other families may wish to purchase for \$1.00. The funds raised will go towards the Charity "Walk with Us" to purchase items such as take away containers, milk and coffee. Each Monday the classes take it in turns to prepare a meal for those families in Burleigh who are homeless or disadvantaged. We have a few staff that volunteer each week and serve the meal that the children have helped to prepare and help those in need.

### FOOD ALLERGIES

This year we have children in the service with severe allergies relating to NUTS, Citrus Seeds and Cinnamon. We ask that you avoid packing these foods in your children's lunch boxes. Please assist staff by reducing the risk to these children and inform them if you have packed these items. The cinnamon is a risk as a loose powder agent, it's okay in baked goods where particles are contained.



## KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION EVENING

Thank you to the families who attended this event. It is through these events that allows us to work in partnership with you and best meet the care needs of your children. It was a well put together night by the staff, thank you team.

### SAVE THE DATES

- Monday 1 April - ELC student photos. All children welcome to come for class photos and have individual photos taken.
- Thursday April 25 - Anzac Day March, James Street Burleigh Heads 10am. All children welcome to join the College in the Service.

### Bronwyn Waters

ELC Director



A big warm welcome to all our new and past families as you begin your year with the Junior Kindy team. We will be working on building the children's connections to their new environment while ensuring they feel safe and secure. This is our priority as the rest will follow as they become independent and their confidence increases. The Junior Kindy team including myself, Miss Steph, Miss Jana, Miss Stacey and Miss Ellie will be observing your child's interest and begin by building on these areas. We will be using Xplor to communicate and share these significant achievements and milestones. Xplor is a very valuable tool that allows you to be connected to your child's learning.

We encourage you to get involved as much as possible, through verbal or written input and ideas. Please continue to work with us on developing term goals or even spending time sharing an experience within the class room. Your input and partnerships are most valuable.



You may have noticed the children will each have their own portfolio readily available for you and your child to reflect on at any time. Feel free to add comments or contribute to their evidence of learning by adding a photo or drawing etc. showing connections that are happening between kindy and home. This will provide information about your child's learning in addition to Xplor.

Through the day we will be providing large and small group learning opportunities that may include, stories, puppets, music, games, devotions and acknowledgments. This will be used for the children to build their communication skills, share and gain knowledge. This will be done in a relaxed way, where the children will have flexibility in how they participate. This is much like our routine, developing a basic schedule to ensure continuity but being able to adjust as required according to the children's needs.

### JUST A FEW LITTLE REMINDERS:

On arrival and departure help your child find their photo, and choose a locker for their bag. Once leaving in the afternoon they can return their photo to the door as they leave for the day.



- Please remember to bring in a fitted and top sheet for rest time
- A piece of fruit or vegetable for our morning tea platters
- Please help us with filling out the sunscreen register on arrival, if you have applied sunscreen to your child
- Keep a look out for wet/soiled clothing tag on your child's bag and seek an educator to assist in collection.
- As we are a sun safe service please ensure your child has a top or dress with sleeves
- Please fill out the form on top of our lockers, writing your child's name, estimated time of pick and by who. You will also find a record of your child's sleep times in the afternoon.



Thank you to all our family and friends. We are looking forward to the adventures that we will have with our Junior Kindy family.

**Miss Stephanie, Miss Jana, Miss Stacey and Miss Ellie**



Hello and welcome to all our families in Pre Prep 1. What a wonderful start to our year we have had. All the children have settled into their new classroom so well and are already forming some special friendships. There have been plenty of smiles, laughs and exploration happening in our room in the past few weeks and it is exciting to watch our learning journeys begin.

We have also had some very special friends join us in Pre Prep 1. Chester the racoon, introduced us to a beautiful story called 'The Kissing Hand' by Audrey Penn and he has helped us to feel brave and connected to our families while at kindy each day. The children have responded so well to the idea of the kissing hand and have used the concept at different times throughout the day, which is wonderful to see.

We also have our superhero trio Lola, Max and Daisy who are busy making their way around to all of the children's homes for a visit. Their special job is to help us learn all about each other. We look forward to hearing about the adventures you share together when a super friend visits your house.



We were very busy learning about Australia in the lead up to Australia Day. The children shared what they love about Australia and we have read many wonderful books about Australian animals. We have learnt where Australia is on the globe or map and began to learn about the incredible indigenous culture we have here in Australia, through stories, music and art. Each morning we start our day with an Acknowledgment to Country and the children have helped to create actions to go along with this.



The children were very excited to see the beautiful sunflowers out in bloom in our playground in our first week of kindy. Watching these flowers grow and bloom has created many wonderful learning experiences for us. We became scientists as we observed parts of the flowers up close using magnifying glasses. We also became artists, as we painted our own sunflower pictures and mathematicians as we enjoyed pouring, weighing and counting whilst playing at the sensory table that was filled with sunflower seeds. We have also created a camping dramatic play area after



some children were role-playing camping outside and talking about recent camping trips with their families. The children helped to brainstorm ideas for what we needed in our camping area and shared their knowledge and experiences about camping.

**Just a few reminders:**



- Please apply sunscreen and sign the sunscreen register upon arrival.
- Please bring in or email a family photo for us to place on our family wall.
- Please provide a piece of fruit or vegetable each day for our share platters.

We look forward to sharing a year of exciting adventures with you.

Thank you,  
**Miss Renee & Miss Estela**



# Pre Prep 2

Hello and welcome to Pre Prep 2. It has been such a pleasure to meet all of our new families and welcome back to those that have returned. We are very excited to see what this year brings. Throughout this first month, we have focused on building strong relationships with the children to ensure they feel safe and secure. We have done this through, 'All about Me' sheets and joining at circle time to say good morning to all of our friends. This has given us insight into the children's interests and their own individual identity, which will help us to create purposeful learning environments throughout the term. So far, the children have enjoyed making new friends, exploring the playground and extending on their interests through lots of fun and exciting experiences.



This Term there will be a strong focus on building a sense of identity and belonging within the room (also relating to our Unit of Inquiry). Mardi and I will be using a variety of strategies to develop relationships such as; daily transitions with partners, activities and group time games that build a confident self-identity as well as looking at family cultures and traditions.



The first month of any child's transition can be a challenging time. Over this period, please be reassured that we will communicate your child's progress through photos and updates on Xplor. Throughout the rest of the year, you can expect to see art samples, PYP information and other special event photos in your child's portfolio, which

are located in block corner. This year we have a Pre Prep 2 family book. Over the past few years, the family book has played an important role in building relationships and getting to know our families. Each week we will send the family book home for a family to make an entry.



### REMINDERS:

- To help us with keeping track of the children's belongings, please make sure all items are clearly named. This includes bedding, drink bottles and clothing.
- A piece of fruit or vegetable to share for morning tea.
- Apply sunscreen on arrival and sign the sunscreen register located next to the drinks trolley

Thank you for your support. We are very excited for this year and teaching all your wonderful children. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to come and see us or email: [ELCPP2@salc.qld.edu.au](mailto:ELCPP2@salc.qld.edu.au)

Miss Teresa and Miss Mardi



### FEBRUARY

- Monday 18** Uncle Allan
- Monday 25** Pre Prep Aged Care visit
- Friday 22** P&F Picnic in the Park  
- All new families welcome
- Tuesday 26** Mufti Day

### MARCH

- Tuesday 5** Family check in morning  
9.30 - 10.30 MT policy input
- Sunday 17** St Patricks Day (Ireland)
- Thursday 21** Harmony Day - Wear orange
- Monday 25** Aged Care visiting ELC