

ARMIDALE & DISTRICT FAMILY DAY CARE

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

October 2018

LET'S STAY HEALTHY

We can appreciate the demands on working families,

BUT, *please* keep your child at home *if* they are not well. By doing so you will assist us with infection control, protecting the health of all the other children and your Educator.

P.S. A child recovering from vomiting or diarrhoea will need to be excluded from care for at least 24 hours after the symptoms have stopped.



THE NEW CHILD CARE SUBSIDY AND HARMONY

Since 1st July you have been receiving Child Care Subsidy as a reduction to your child care fees. Once your child starts care they are linked to AFDC. Whenever there is a change to your child's enrolment you are required to confirm this through your MYGOV account. You receive this information via email from AFDC. If you have any changes eg email address, attendance of care hours please notify the office or your Educator

Our software provider, Harmony, provides a child care based programme for our Educators, Families and Staff to use for their signing in/out, holidays, programming, invoicing.

When you enroll, you are emailed a PIN and an information manual, which you use to sign your child/ren in and out. The PIN is valid for 72 hours as also the remote signature requests that are emailed to your Educator each week for you to sign off and approve. It is a requirement that guardians sign the exact time they arrive and depart, whether using the paper version or through Harmony.



Water painting on rocks....watching it dry...art meets science.

Holidays and absences can be made through the software system (Harmony) by your Educator. Please let your Educator notice of your Christmas period holidays.

Thank you to all our families that have taken on board the change over with the Harmony system and supported your Educator so well, giving them assurance and encouragement along the way. There are occasional hiccups with all software programmes (and ours did have a few) !!

To those families that will be following their Educator into the online world, please support them with having extra time on the initial mornings to sign in using their computer device.

If you forget your PIN or have difficulty signing in, please contact the Office. We will reissue another one to you.

We welcome family feedback and involvement through phone calls, emails, Educator programs or Board Membership...

YOU ARE INVITED TO AFDC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON MONDAY 12TH NOVEMBER @ 7PM

AT THE ARMIDALE BOWLING CLUB

Please RSVP by 7th November on 67725300

SUSTAINABILITY



Are you a lunchbox legend?

- your sandwiches are wrapped in a reusable sandwich wrap or pocket
- your fresh fruit, veggies and treats are in safe (PVC and BPA free) food containers
- you take a reusable spork
- you fill a reusable drink bottle
- you use a reusable Sinchies pouch or container for yoghurt or wet food
- hot soups or leftovers are in an insulated food jar



Educators are starting to be more sustainable in their service, asking families to supply a "Waste Free" lunchbox, supplying a "wet sack" for wet clothes/ nappies, using cloth handtowels for each child. Recycling, composting and also Garden to Plate activities.

LITERACY, MATHS AND SCIENCE OUTDOORS

At the recent Family Day Care Australia Conference we purchased a set of Margaret Sargent's books with ideas for developing these skills through play outside.

Here are some of her suggestions:

Literacy

What does that say?

Go for a walk and look for print in the local environment- signs, posters, maps, road signs, bus timetables, menus.

Read them out loud and talk what they mean and what they are used for.

Look at different fonts, colours (sometimes signs are red because they are warning us of danger).

I Spy

In a visually interesting outdoor environment.

Use descriptive sentences instead of letters e.g. "I spy with my little eye a small brown ball on the floor" (conker) or "something see through in the wall" (window) or "something red that's made of metal" (car).

Children can take turns describing things they see.

Extend: I hear with my little ears, I smell with my little nose, I feel with my little hands.

Letter hunt

Resources: plastic letters or alphabet pebbles.

Hide letters all around the outdoor environment and explain we are going on a letter hunt.

They can bring back as many as they can find and match them to the letter cards.

Older children might like to see how many words they can make from the found letters.



Sand- sensory play, open endeduse your imagination.

Contact Us on 67725300

Liz, Sue or Pat

