



St. Dunstan's Preschool

Newsletter November/December 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Sadly, this will be our last newsletter for the year, as we less than 4 weeks of preschool to go. I think we can all agree that this year has been very different to previous years, and as a community we have shown how amazing we are to get through these uncertain times like we have. We are very proud and thankful to have the families, children and staff that we do.

Here is a rundown of all the final events for this year...

- Magic Craig: Tuesday 1st of December & Thursday 3rd of December
- Children's end of year celebration: Chingu... Friday 11th of December, 9am-11am
Sadiq... Friday 11th of December, 12:30pm- 2:30pm
Rafiki... Tuesday 15th of December, 9:30am-11:30am
Amigo... Wednesday 16th of December 9:30am-11:30am

Please send as an email clearly outlining the full names and contact numbers of the adults who will be attending on the day (max number of 2 adults per preschool child- No siblings please).

We know there is a lot to remember so please refer to the email that was sent (20.11.20) for all the information needed for the day.

If you have any questions, please see your child's teachers.

- Family meetings: Week starting 26th of November. We look forward to sharing your child's progress with you. Information for booking your time has been placed in your child's note pocket.

Fundraising

We would like to say a big Thank You to Caroline Chanelian for being our fundraising coordinator this year as well as our families who contributed in their own way. The money raised has gone to incursions such as Magic Craig, donating to different charities and the purchasing of new equipment and resources. Caroline has also collected many wonderful prizes for our lucky door winners at our end of year party.

Family Feedback

A family feedback survey (by Survey Monkey) will be emailed to all families by Stacey. Your feedback is important, as it guides us in our decisions towards creating a high quality service. This year we will also be asking you to have a conversation with your child so that they can contribute by drawing their favourite part of their stay at our preschool. Please complete the feedback online and complete a drawing/story to place in the box on the kitchen bench, Thank you.

Tearfund

Tearfund (Tear Australia) is committed to the idea that giving more ‘stuff’ isn’t what the world needs, giving more usefully is. Tear’s Useful Gifts, are aimed at providing essential resources to the poor to bring about holistic development and community transformation. Each year we look for a meaningful way to give back to our community. In partnership with the children we will decide what we will purchase for the community in need.

Christmas giving

Thank you to all the families who contributed to our “Toys and Tucker”. We will be taking all the wonderful items up the church on Friday 27th of November.

Transition to School

Moving from early childhood education and care to primary school is a key milestone for children and families. To support the transition to school, a resource pack has been developed by the NSW Dept. of Education to assist with effective and meaningful preparation for school.

Parents and carers often have questions when it comes to their child starting school. The Department has a number of digital resources to respond to parents and carers needs at this time. Parents and carers are encouraged to visit the Transition to School section of the NSW Department of Education Early Childhood website for this information.

(<https://education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education>)

There are 7 helpful fact sheets, with the following topics:

- Belonging at school
- Developing healthy eating habits
- What to expect in a school day
- Music education
- New routines
- Independent learning / Agency
- Physical school readiness

The link and further information regarding these topics have also been added to the preschool Facebook page and website.

We hope you find these resources useful in preparing your child for a successful start at school.

All the friendly staff are here to help you, so please feel free to approach any of us if you have any questions.

We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year 😊

Michelle, Julie, Maxine, Stacey, Esther, Terrie, Sephine, Young, Ben, Lynette and Simone.

