



# PUMPKIN LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

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## Newsletter – June 2020

### Parents Reminder

Dear Pumpkin families,

Please help us to continue to apply infection prevention and control precautions by keeping your child home if he or she is unwell. We ask you to refrain from bringing your child to Pumpkin if he or she is unwell. For example, if your child has any cold or flu symptoms (such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose or shortness of breath).

It is particularly important if your child has had a fever, infectious disease, diarrhoea, or been vomiting within the past 24 hours. If your child is unwell while at day care, we will ask you to collect them. If your child has been sick with an infectious disease, ***you will be required to provide a medical certificate (clearance letter) confirming that your child is not contagious anymore.***

Many illnesses, while not fitting exclusion criteria, can transmit disease to other children in care. Please refer to our 'Infectious Diseases Policy' (we also attached this policy in this Newsletter). Please advise Pumpkin educators on arrival verbally or in writing of any symptoms requiring administration of medication to their child in the past **48 hours** and the cause of the symptoms if known.

Educators at Pumpkin will minimise the spread of potential infectious diseases between children by excluding children who may have an infectious disease or are too ill to attend the service and facilitate the prevention and effective management of acute illness in children.

Kind regards,

Elly Tjanterik

## July Calendar of Events

**05 - 12/07/20 - NAIDOC Week** – Honouring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth.

**04<sup>th</sup> - Saturday** – Asalha Puja Day – Buddhist – Buddha's first sermon

**29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday** – National tree Day

**29 – 30/07/20 – Tisha B'Av** – Jewish Tradition, on this day Jewish people fast in order to remember the sufferings of the Jewish people throughout history

**31<sup>st</sup> - Friday** – Schools Tree Day

**30/07/20 - 03/08/20 – Eid Al Adha** – Islamic tradition



**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**  
**5-12 JULY 2020**

# Clownfish News

This month we welcome **Eleanor, Mia, Toma, Bella and Ellie** to our Clownfish room!



**Counting experiences** – In the beginning of the month, the children showed interest toward counting since Lisboa's mother shared that she has been counting and dancing with The Wiggles.



To extend the interest, the educators prepared various activities! Firstly, they were counting 1-10 with the children using nursery rhymes. Then, they did number stamps with paint as the children loved



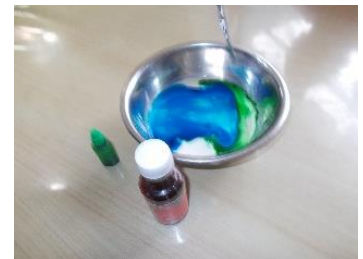
paint so much. Through this, the children learned about the number, the colour, the texture of the paint as well as enhanced their fine motor skills. Moreover, they also incorporated numbers into the daily tasks, such as counting when packing away, counting the dots on the ball, counting stacking donuts, etc. The children actively contributed to mathematical learning through play and showed enthusiasm in their learning.



**Colour** – Moved on from the counting, colour experiment is one of the interests of the month for the children. Colour experiments are enchanting as the colours turned differently when mixed, and the



children expressed their enthusiasm by curiously contributing to the experiments. We learn about the primary colours and how they turned out when mixed. They chose what colours they wanted and saw the changes. Secondary colours were formed,



and the children learned to recognise those colours! Another experiment they tried was the colour changing milk that incorporated science to it, as we could see how the colours in the milk swirled around when dish soap was added. The children were amazed at the rainbow colour that came out as we learned about those!



**Animals** – At the end of the month, the children showed interest toward the animals! We started with our animal puzzles as we familiarised ourselves with animals that we often see as well as



exercised their fine motor skills. Then, we took a virtual tour to the safari where we journeyed through the wilderness and saw the giraffes, monkeys, lion, tiger, and elephants. We also heard different sound of the animals, such as roaring of the lion and trumpet sound from the elephant.



Moreover, we used books to learn more about the sound of cat, pig, sheep, etc. Light table was also incorporated to see



them in darkness as we played. Lastly, we used our zoo compartments for the children to navigate through their way in the zoo.



We placed the animals according to their habitat as we learned more about the animals.

Until next time,

Clownfish educators.



# Jellyfish News

**A big welcome to our new friends Edward, Declan and Maisie!**

**Shapes and Colours** – The children have recently developed an interest towards shapes and colours. They often create shapes in

construction, showing them proudly to their educators and naming colours in books, their clothes, and resources. The children have been bringing in resources such as books about shapes and colours, a colourful animal figurine with shapes and a rainbow puzzle to share. On the 4<sup>th</sup>, the children enjoyed mixing colours and watching different colours come to life! The next day, the children worked in groups in an experiment of

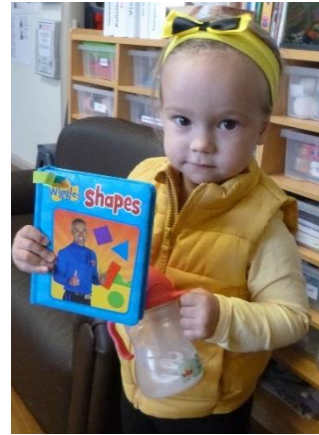
using primary colours to get secondary colours! They have also enjoyed creating their own shapes for their

play, such as creating crowns by making circles using magnetic pieces, sorting dinosaurs by colours, using special texts to create colourful drawings, making and rainbow shapes collages. On the 11<sup>th</sup>, Ava

shared her Wonder Woman. We spotted stars and different colours on her outfit, as well as the letter W. Her doll also got us talking about different eye colours and hair colour and styles as it had beautiful blue eyes and black curly hair. The children pointed out their own features such as, “Brown eyes”. We

noticed many similarities and differences between the Jellyfish group!

**Literacy and numeracy interest** – The Jellyfish children continued taking on roles of numeracy and literacy in their play this month. They found their initial letters and showed them proudly during play and book reading and even spotted their letters on socks! They also count items frequently as they play.





**More classic stories** – On the 9<sup>th</sup>, we had four friends share books with us! Seems like the interest in stories is still present! We explored ‘Thumbs up for Ted’s thumbsie’, all about Ted working hard to give up sucking his thumb in time for big school. We also explored an ABC book (which had the by now very familiar alphabet, shapes and colours), ‘The Grufallo’ and ‘Room on a broom’ stories, two classic stories we got to know during our classic stories interest last month. It was wonderful to see the children verbally sharing what they could see, demonstrating their knowledge as they engaged in a group discussion about the stories! The next day, after Ailsie shared her about her drawing, “Look, Miss Alex, a monster”, we remembered the monster from Billie’s ‘Room on a broom’ story and decided to watch an online version of the story. The children really enjoyed seeing the witch and the other characters come to life on the screen and have been requesting this video ever since!



**Dramatic/role-play** – The children have been demonstrating a strong interest towards dramatic play this month. They have been on ‘bus rides’ together, looked after many babies in varied ways, cooked for each other and enjoyed ‘eating’ together at both our indoor and outdoor home corners, been



busy ‘working’ away with our real keyboard and telephone, have been role-playing familiar stories such as ‘The three little pigs’ and ‘Room on a broom’ and have been



very busy doctors and patients! The children also request ‘Hop little bunnies’ and role-play different animals during the singing experience. What lovely times!







### **The nature interest continues further –**

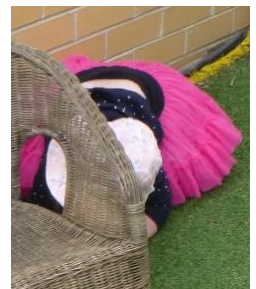
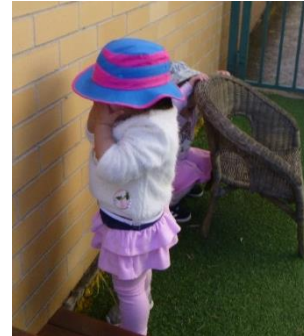
The children continued to demonstrate to be eager to engage with our natural environment. “Miss Alex! I found it here”, the children show where they have been finding grapefruit and passionfruit growing. They enjoy bringing in natural



resources found around the yard to their play such as leaves for cooking. The fruit has also continued to be used as balls for group games of rolling them to each other. Finding snails around the playground is also another fun thing to do as the children point them out to each other and together, they observe them closely. And as always, the children enjoy taking care of our gardens by watering them! And as our peer Christan loves bringing in books about nature and animals to share, one rainy day one of his books about animals inspired us to get moving inside with a YouTube video called Andy’s workout. It features children stretching and encourages them to get up and move while embarking on an animal adventure around the world! The children participated in the interactive physical workout with joy and enthusiasm!



**Hide and seek and games–** The children have been enjoying playing hide and seek since Alicia initiated the organised game at the beginning of the month. The children mostly enjoy hiding, so the educators take on the role of the seeker as the



children get creative with their hiding spots! On the 25<sup>th</sup>, Grace and her family extended on our games interest, by bringing in a bingo game to share with us. The game was a hit with the children! Miss Alex explained how it works and soon the children showed great understanding of the game and played it really well! Miss Alex was so impressed with the Jellyfish children!



Until next month,  
Jellyfish Educators

# Starfish & Lionfish News

## Parent Notices:

- With the weather getting cooler, please ensure you child has a jumper/jacket packed and weather appropriate spare clothes (including socks).
- Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled including jumper/jackets/vests.
- If you arrive when children are outside please wait for an educator at the gate to greet you.



**Construction...** The Lionfish and Starfish have continued their interest in construction and have been busy builders using various resources to invent and construct. They have continued to use resources such as lego, colourful lego,



junior engineer kit, magnetic blocks, mobilio and mega blocks. We have had various houses, towers, zoos, castles, cars, cubby houses built with the list going on. The Lionfish and Starfish have expressed great pride and satisfaction



with their creations and have continued to display them on our construction shelf. They have also requested the construction resources during outdoor play. They have also enjoyed our new transport vehicles set, building different cars and vehicles and adding the figures to them.



**Bikes and Cars...** While outside throughout June the Lionfish and Starfish have frequently requested to have the bikes and car brought out. When doing so expressing concern for safety of themselves and



others through putting on their helmets and assisting others to put on theirs. While pedalling around the outside environment the Lionfish and Starfish have showed each other how they go fast and how they can pedal forwards and backwards, being aware of the safety of themselves and others.







**Drawing...** The Lionfish and Starfish have continued to express an interest in drawing especially when arriving at the service and when outside. To extend on this interest, the educators provided them with a variety of 'learn to draw' cards which they are loving. They have been

learning to draw butterflies, bees, cars and trucks and a variety of other animals. They have continued enjoying sharing their creative work with their educators and peers.



**Gross Motor Games...** While outdoors the Lionfish and Starfish have continued to effectively employ the use of their gross motor skills and abilities. They have particularly enjoyed ball games, inventing some of their

own and learning some new skills. They have practised their throwing, catching, kicking and bouncing skills and used the noodles to play a cricket/softball game. Miss Tracey showed some of them how to play handball and they played together.



**Literacy and Numeracy...** The Lionfish and Starfish have continued to be provided with the opportunity to write using their name and number writing sheets. The Lionfish and Starfish have improved greatly and now are challenged through not only tracing their names but

writing it themselves. Lionfish and Starfish have continued to work with educators to play various literacy and numeracy games on the prowise. They have also continued challenging themselves with new word and number sheets provided by educators.



**COVID- 19....** Once again during June the Lionfish and Starfish have participated in various experiences detailing the importance of person hygiene and cleanliness. Now that we are in winter, we have been reminding children about personal hygiene when coughing or sneezing. We have continued to welcome back peers who we have all missed and the Lionfish and Starfish were very excited to play and learn with them.



**National Reconciliation Week ...** On 26<sup>th</sup> May we talked about 'National Sorry Day', participating in a variety of art/craft activities including handprints, rainbow fish, drawings and painting a template of Australia using natural materials and listening to



different Dreamtime stories over Reconciliation Week. The children really enjoyed learning about the Aboriginal Culture through stories and art, requesting to watch Dreamtime stories every day.

Until Next Time,

Lionfish and Starfish Educators ☺ ☺