



PUMPKIN LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

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Newsletter – July 2020

Extra hours because of coronavirus (COVID-19)

You can apply for extra Child Care Subsidy (CCS) hours if your family is doing less activity because of COVID-19.

Families affected by COVID-19 may get up to 100 hours of CCS per fortnight for up to 12 weeks. If you're eligible, you can access extra hours between 13 July and 4 October 2020. You can apply any time before 4 October but we can only back pay you up to 28 days.

It's important you keep your [activity test](#) details up to date so we can give you the right rate of CCS. Check they're correct before applying for extra hours.

Who can get extra hours

You can get extra CCS hours if your family's [recognised activity level](#) has gone down because of COVID-19. All of the following must also apply:

- you don't already have access to 100 hours of CCS
- between 13 January and 22 March 2020, you were doing more than 16 hours of [recognised activity](#) per fortnight
- now, you're doing 8 or more hours of [recognised activity](#) per fortnight.

You can't get extra hours if you've chosen to do less activity and this isn't because of COVID-19.

What you need to do

You can apply for extra hours using your [Centrelink online account](#) through [myGov](#). Select **My Family** from the menu, then **Child care**.

You can also use the [Express Plus Centrelink mobile app](#).

August Calendar of Events

07th – Friday – Jeans for Genes Day.

03rd – Monday – National Aboriginal and Islander Children’s Day (NAICD)

03rd – Monday – New South Wales Bank Holiday

03rd – Monday - **Raksha Bandhan** – Hindu tradition, celebrates the love between brothers and sisters. Sisters will tie a rakhi thread on their brother’s wrist as a form of protection against evil spirits

03rd – 09/08/20 – Dental Health Week Australia

09th – Sunday - International Day for World Indigenous People

14th – Friday – Red Nose Day.

15th – 23/08/20 – National Science Week, Theme: Future Earth

17th – 23/08/20 – Keep Australia Beautiful Week

28th – Friday – Daffodil Day



Clownfish News

Welcome to the seventh newsletter of the month. This month we welcome Hunter and Elliot to our Clownfish room! Moreover, we had Jaxx who just celebrated his first birthday and Darius who turned two this month 😊

This month, the children's interests were mostly around the motor skills, literacy, friendship development, etc. Likewise, the educators promoted their learning dispositions through series of experiences around their interests.

Fine motor skills development



Earlier this month the children were developing interest in play that involved fine motor skills, especially with the beads. Experiences were built around their interest, by providing them other materials such as tags, coin box, sorting boxes,

painting, pom pom play, stacking donut, even as simple as turning the page, where they exercised their fine motor skills as well as their hand and eye coordination. Moreover, through this play, their learning disposition such as persistence, curiosity and commitment were promoted as well as cause and effect. We also leaned to count and learned other mathematical skills such as sorting and problem solving in their daily activities.

Pictures from Wednesday, 1st of July and Thursday, 2nd of July

Early Literacy interest

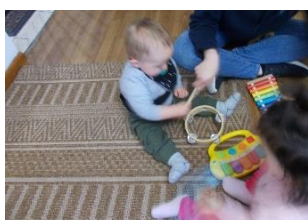
Early literacy interest initiated when a group of children explored each book page by page! They looked at the pictures of the books such as the animals, letter and musical books. The educators prepared writing station where they held their pencils and started to make their mark, which is



important for them to get creative. Book reading experiences were also promoted during tea-time to build on their vocabulary, patterns in words and most importantly to interact with them 😊

Pictures from Tuesday, 7th of July, 8th of July, 9th of July

Musical play



In the middle of the month, musical play was another interest that



emerged in the room. The children loved to explore the sound that each instrument made, or even the sound from clicking the block together! Moreover, we made our own musical jar from dried beans, rice, and pasta to bring home. They had fun picking or scooping the

beans as well. Also, we took out the 'rock band kit' on the floor where the children explored the sound of keyboard, flute and guitar when pressed.

Pictures from Wednesday, 15th of July and Thursday, 16th of July

Senses



The end of the month, we engaged ourselves with sensory play that leaned toward touch, sight, and sound from our everyday play. It started with the sensory board with different materials such as pom pom, straw, corrugated board where





they explored each of the texture. Other experiences such as nest and stack boxes with animals inside, playdough, painting, as well as textures (rough, smooth, and slimy).

Pictures from Friday, 17th of July, Wednesday, 22nd of July and Friday, 24th of July.

Until next time,

Clownfish educators

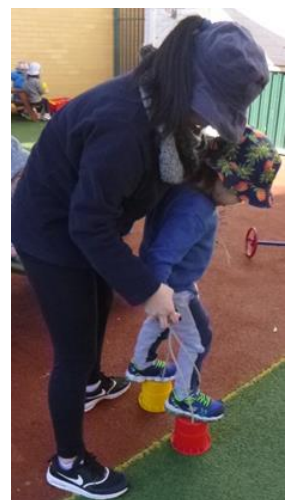
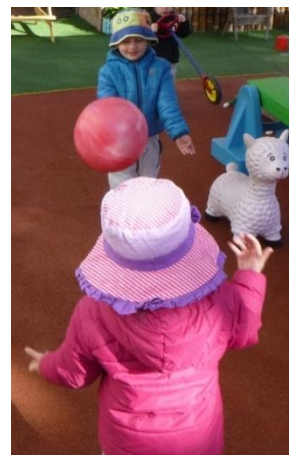
Jellyfish July Newsletter

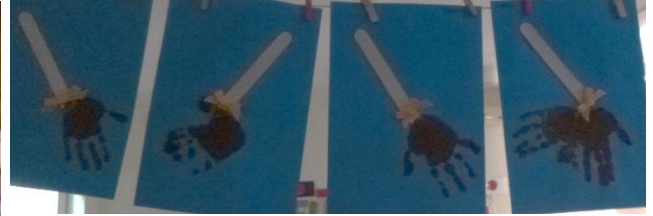
Reminder: Please email us a family photo if you have not done so yet!

A big welcome to our new Clownfish friends, Leevi and Darius!

Games interest continues - Extending on our games interest from last month, we have played new card and boards, facilitated by the educators and brought in by children and families. On the 3rd, Christian shared a motorized game where the aim as to catch as many fireflies as the children could! The children loved the fun game and all got involved in it, requesting it both inside and outside! Since the children enjoyed playing with Grace's bingo game last month, Miss Elly bought the same game for our room and the children have been enjoying playing it whenever they want to! They have been demonstrating to be able to recall and draw on previous learning so well as they sort, classify and find common attributes during the game! It has also been great to see the children helping each other and working collaboratively during the game and celebrating their own, as well as their friends' achievements! When Miss Sinni returned to Pumpkin this month, she was very excited to discover new games in our room! She invited the children to show her our 'Pop the pirate' and 3 little pigs game. The children scream with excitement when playing those games with Miss Sinni. Outside, the

children have also been playing organised games, such as ball games, after Hazel shared her football! At the end of the month, balancing became a fun game as the children used steppers and our new balancing boards!





Julia Donaldson/Axel Scheffler books - The Jellyfish children have really been



enjoying Julia Donaldson/Axel Scheffler books lately such as Zog but especially 'Room on a broom' (we read it daily as requested by the children!). They have also continued to bring in books by these authors to share, such as The Gruffalo. The children made craft related to their current favourite story, their own broomsticks, witch's hats and wands! We got the idea after Billie, then Ailsie shared their



wands, just like the one the witch has in the story! On the 7th, the children requested the story once again. When the witch's hat was pointed out by



Lucas, the children were offered craft related to witch's hats and enjoyed decorating their hats! Ava then brought in her own witch's hat to share and everyone was impressed! On the 21st, the children discovered another great Julia Donaldson story today, Stick man. Cara shared the stickman figure she created at home and that led us to the story



and to making our own stick family after collecting sticks and twigs outside. At the end of the month, the interest in the three little pigs returned as the children created houses for the pigs and made their own little houses craft with Miss Sinni.





The ever-present nature interest – Already on the 1st, Cara requested to see and explore the worms. The experience has been facilitated as requested by the children on different days, with the children being provided with gloves for the sensory experience. Another nature related experience the children have been enjoying this month includes collecting sand, leaves and petals from our outdoor environment and taking them into their home corner play! On the 9th, they combined nature play with role-play as they prepared food for their peers who were role-playing ‘cats’, crawling and meowing all over the playground!



More literacy learning- The children have continued to point out their letters upon finding them around the room in different resources. On the 13th, a child chose a group reading by saying, ‘This one! ABC’. The group showed their enthusiasm and engagement with the letters. Miss Sinni then extended it to letter stamp activity. The children enjoyed participating in the experience as they stamped the letters and labelled them using verbal language! They explored many letters and were given opportunities to pick their favourite colours!



Birdie and the virus – We received a new book in the mail this month from the Children’s health Queensland hospital and health service. We decided to read it since the children are often reminded to practice good hygiene and eat well to stay healthy. Throughout the story, we got talking about washing hands, remembering to cover coughs and sneezes and staying home to rest and not spread diseases when sick. It was great to see the children relaying their knowledge during the discussion! It was also interesting to find out that the doctor in the story is called Doctor Grace, just like our friend Gracey! Following on from the story, the children were excited to pretend to be doctors and patients – a strong interest from last month.





Dancing and singing – As we had a lot of wet days this month, the children got moving inside through songs, dance and yoga time! They have been enjoying dancing to their



favourite songs: Munch and Move's 'Warm up song', Freeze and 'The skeleton dance'! On the 15th, we even had a little karaoke session with our karaoke machine after a peer had been sharing her microphone all week! The children got to sing along to familiar



songs such as 'The wheels on the bus' and songs from our 'Munch and Move' CD. The children also enjoyed their singing and dancing outside, often initiating group singing time such as 'Ring-a-ring O' rosy'!

Until next month,

Jellyfish Educators

Lionfish & Starfish News



Cars and Bikes... Throughout July while outside the Starfish and Lionfish request to have the cars and bikes brought out. Once out the Starfish and Lionfish express concern for their safety and others through putting on their helmets and assisting each other to put on theirs. While pedaling around the learning environment the Starfish and Lionfish frequently show each other how they pedal fast, go backwards and follow each other. The Starfish and Lionfish have joined with educators to use chalk to create various roads scenes. This led to educators adding various road signs and traffic lights. The Starfish and Lionfish were excited to explore the signs and follow what they stated. They even pretended they were kangaroos and kolas based from what the sign was showing. While inside the Starfish and Lionfish engage with the cars and truck through dramatic play and create an array of ramps. The larger dump trucks have also been used to transport wooden blocks between both sides of the mat.



Natural Environment... Last month a Starfish friend shared news of him growing tomatoes at home. This created an interest about gardening and the natural environment. Throughout the month the Starfish and Lionfish have planted beans, lettuce, carrots and celery, spring onion, pak choy. Each morning the Starfish and Lionfish check to see if they have grown and if they have excitedly show peers and educators. While outside the Starfish and Lionfish explore the various garden beds for any snails or insects. This was furthered through using the magnetifying glasses.



Music and Dancing... While outside the Starfish and Lionfish have been requesting to have music put on. Once on they have been showing each other their dance moves as well as copying them. We have played musical statues as well as using the musical instruments. The Starfish and



Lionfish also danced to a just dance clips in response to a Lionfish peer shared how she enjoys

dancing to them. We even had an inside disco where the Starfish and Lionfish shared what their favorite song is and requested songs to dance too.

Lego... Continuing from last month the Lego has once again been an interest. The Starfish and Lionfish have used the Lego to build, invent and construct. When doing so discussing what they are building and proudly showing peers and educators. We have had boats,



robots, treasure chests, spaceships, helicopters and dragons being built just to name a few.

Ball Games... While outside the Starfish and Lionfish have requested balls to be brought out. When doing so demonstrating various prosocial behaviors through sharing and turn taking. Each day there has been an array



of ball games. For example the Starfish and Lionfish have played soccer, target throw, grip ball and bowling too.

Literacy and Numeracy... The Starfish and Lionfish have



collaborated to play various numeracy and literacy games using the prowise board. The Starfish and Lionfish explored letters and spelt their names while using the magnetic letters. While also fishing for letters using the



magnetic letters, pond (Blue mat) and fishing rods (Paintbrush with twine and magnet connected). The Starfish and Lionfish counted and engaged with mathematical knowledge using Lego and dump truck board. As an



extension from a peer's news the Starfish and Lionfish explored shapes and used them to make their own picture. The number rockets have also been requested frequently. While outside the Starfish and Lionfish have engaged with the alphabet bean bags to extend letter recognition and even decided to put them in alphabetical order.





Art and Crafts... Every day throughout July the Starfish and Lionfish have been busy expressing their imagination and creativity through drawing. We have had dinosaurs, rainbows, mums, dads, families and dogs just to name a few. Once complete these drawings have been shared with peers and educators. The Starfish and Lionfish have also engaged in various crafts to further interest and knowledge. For example we have painted using watercolours, letter stamped and even pasted down small squares and shapes to make our own pictures in response to news shared.



Dramatic Play... This month the Starfish and Lionfish have been busy expressing their imagination and creativity. We have shared multiple meals and picnics in home corner both inside and out. The fairies have been engaged frequently as well as the dolls. The Starfish and Lionfish used the fairies to decorate the outside kitchen area as they were having a party. The Starfish and Lionfish have also been engaging with the dolls house as they set up different furniture and used the people of the world with them. After completing constructions, the Starfish and Lionfish have been observed using them within play. Due to some wet weather during the month the Starfish



and Lionfish expressed interest in cameras and taking photos. To extend this and a peer's news about taking photos on Friday the 17th the Starfish and Lionfish used various toy cameras to take photos of each other and used the room camera to take photos too.



Until Next Month,

Starfish and Lionfish Educators ☺