



PUMPKIN LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

7 O'Connell Avenue & 286 Beauchamp Road
Matraville 2036
Phone: 02 9311 0044 & 9661 9521
Management@pumpkinldcc.com.au

Newsletter – September 2020

Centre News

Dear parents and families,

As the weather is getting warmer now, please remember to apply sunscreen to your child's face and body prior to coming to Pumpkin. Due to the warm weather, we have started our summer routine which means we go outside earlier and come back in earlier also.

Children are required to wear sun safe hats that protect their face, neck and ears. Please bring in:

- bucket hat with a deep crown and brim size of at least 5cm.
- broad brimmed hat with a brim size of at least 6cm.
- **Please note: Baseball caps or visors are not sun safe because they do not provide enough sun protection.**

When outdoors, children will wear sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (especially the shoulders, back and stomach) as possible. This includes wearing:

- loose fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered neckline.
- knee-length or longer style skirts, shorts and trousers.
- clothing that is made from cool, densely woven fabric.
- clothing with high UV protection factors (UPF), at least UPF15 but preferably UPF 50 .
- **Please note: Midriff, crop or singlet tops are not sun safe because they do not provide enough sun protection.**

We have reviewed our Excursion and Transportation Policy this month, please feel free to give us your feedback.

Kind regards,

Elly Tjanterik

October Calendar of Events

All Month – Energy Awareness Month.

16th – Tuesday – World Food Day

17th – 26/10/20 – Navaratri – Hindu – Worship of Durga

25th - Sunday –Dussehra (Dasara) – Indian Festival “remover of bad fate”

25th - Sunday – Vijaya Dashami – Hindu tradition, this marks the triumph of good over evil

31th - Saturday– Halloween



www.shutterstock.com - 710740612

Clownfish News

Welcome **Boston** to Clownfish room this month!

Early literacy



The children's interest in book reading has been going very strong! They always reach out for books in the book corners, flipped each page and felt the texture of the books. Educators extended their interest by reading with them, singing, and explaining what was happening in the book. Moreover, we offered writing supplies such as crayons, pencils, and chinks for them to express their ideas and make meaning. They also have been exploring the alphabet letters with educators through song and magnetic letters!



Singing and dancing



Dancing has been an ongoing interest for the children in the room. We extended the interest by singing various nursery rhymes such as The Wheels on The Bus, If You Happy and You Knew It, and Rock Bye a Bear.



Few songs have been their favourites such as Freeze Dance and Little Bunny. They danced along



with the lyrics and were able to show their physical development. Parents also contributed to what songs that they children like and we turned them on in the centre. We also explored different musical instruments and we even made our own guitar! It was wonderful to see the continuity of children's learning and thank you for sharing 😊



Transportation



Throughout the month, the children were seen reaching for transportation toys. As we have a variety of transportation toys in the room, such as small cars, trains, tractors, etc, children have the choices to explore. We also heard words such as "wahh" and "wihh" whenever they moved the cars along. As they were exploring with cause and effect, we extended their learning by providing a circle ramp to see how the cars went down the ramp when we pushed them. Then, they took the initiative to try in on the caterpillar tunnel, the slide or just the rock along the flowerbed! It was amazing to see how they applied their knowledge and went through trial and error ☺



Until next time,

Clownfish educators

Jellyfish News

A big welcome to our new friend Leonardo and Minh!

Father's Day! - The children started the month marking Father's Day by engaging in discussions about dad and other family members, reading books about dads and making a special craft to be taken home as a gift.



Let's go to the zoo! – At the end of last month, the children initiated an imaginative play for themselves, using old cameras found in our room. They pretended to take photos of each other with them and announced that they were going to the zoo and pointed out the animals they came across and took photos of. They also created their own cameras with recycled materials through a craft experience, to be further used in their great imaginative



play. The families were then invited to share special photos. We got to see Ava climbing and having

fun at a birthday party, Maisie's Father's Day activity, Alicia's time visiting Christian, Darius' strawberry picking experience at Port Macquarie and Sonny's photos at Sea life!

Dancing and music! – On the 3rd, there

was a lot of dancing! Miss Alex took out our ribbons and Alicia spotted them first, shaking her hips from side to side, "Look at me, Miss Alex". A lot of children liked Alicia's idea and followed, also dancing with the ribbons. Miss Sinni then decided



to put on lovely music for the children to dance to and ran





a dance class, such as by encouraging and demonstrating, "Now, twirling everyone". The interest continued for the month as the children requested ribbons for more dancing! As well as dancing with ribbons, the Jellyfish children have also been



showed their interest in playing the musical instruments. They have been observed to be busy engaging with their peers by playing the musical instruments together. To extend on this interest, Miss Sinni decided to provide a DIY Shaker experience, using our recycled bottle. Still extending on the



children's dancing interest on the 9th, they were asked if they wanted to engage in indoor



dancing since it was raining. Milla suggested, "I want ballerina". Alicia liked the idea, "I love ballerina, like Emma". We then decided to watch a clip of Emma teaching ballet and learnt about a ballet step called Demi plie. The children made a diamond shape with their legs, bending their knees! Later on, we read a story called 'The best ballerina' and through the story, we discovered yet another ballet move, the pirouette, which was a lot



of fun to try! After Ailsie shared a picture of herself dressed as a Hawaiian hula dancer, we got inspired and did some traditional Hawaiian dancing, following steps from a video of pre-schoolers engaged in the traditional dance. Billie shared a flute, which was great to explore and listen to.



My flower letter – On the 10th, Grace shared a beautiful painting with a message she received from her cousin. Miss Alex read the message to the group and we agreed



that it was a lovely message! Her letter inspired us to create our own painting to be gifted to someone special in the children's lives!

To extend their interest in music and dance, on the 21st, Miss Sinni provided DIY shaker activity and invited Jellyfish children to create their own shaker freely. The children showed their enthusiasm to participate in the experience. By using the recycled bottles, we put beans, beads, pompoms and sequin inside, this activity stimulated their eye-hand coordination as they carefully grabbed and poured the materials into the bottle.

Fantastic work, everyone!



On the 15th, the Jellyfish children made babyccinos with Miss Sinni's milk frother, as they had been showing their strong interest at dramatic play at home corner. They engaged with each other by sharing their happiness and using verbal language to express their ideas and feeling. They manipulated the resources and created their own scripts during their dramatic play! Miss Sinni gave everyone a turn to use the



frother and they enjoyed the new experience and laughed together. They then all had a cup of babyccino and enjoyed it until the last sip. Yummy! What a lovely and delicious experience ♡

Early literacy - What a fun afternoon everyone had on the 16th! Ailsie shared pictures of her time learning to write at home by tracing letters in a workbook! We got inspired by her photos and decided to do our own writing/tracing of the children's familiar letters. We counted 4 friends who have names that start with the letter A, 3 with the letter M and two with the letter L! Well done everyone!



The ever-present nature interest: Snails! -

Miss Sinni found a snail in our playground one morning and called the children over. Everyone wanted to take a close look! Some children decided to spend most of their morning there, watching the snail closely. Miss Alex joined them and together they noticed the snail's features, such as its' eyes,



its' shell and how slowly it was moving. Miss Alex then spotted a small snail in the bin. The children rushed to look and immediately noticed that it was a much smaller snail. Miss Sinni placed it close to other snail and it was wonderful to observe the bigger snail going inside its' shell while the smaller one kept exploring! On the 23rd, the interest continued as we all went on a snail hunt after not being able to find any easily. Upon finding the snails, the



children continue to explore them further by observing and talking about what they could see. Later, the children had the opportunity to join a group where they watched an informative clip with many snail facts! The next day, the children



continued exploring the snails, this time closer with magnifying glasses! They also observed a snail from all angles through a bug catcher jar! The snail interest continued strong until the end of the month. It was so much fun to explore many snails found in our gardens (on the 29th) as they were very active, crawling on each



other, 'hugging' and trying to move into empty shells. The children also had the opportunity to engage in a snail craft experience!

The Jellyfish children also continued to show their growing appreciation and care towards their environment on the 22nd. Miss Sinni modelled them how to look after the garden by collecting all the leaves on the ground and the children followed Miss Sinni, they excitedly picked up the leaves. , Hazel then initiated to water the garden, she reached out to Miss Sinni and asked for water. Some of her peers joined in. They took the water cans and waited for their turn to get the water. During watering, we spotted the snails again, the group showed their enthusiasm observing the snails again!

Until next month,

Jellyfish Educators

Lionfish & Starfish News

Storypark.... This month we have launched Storypark across the whole service. Storypark is an app and website which allows Pumpkin to share what your child has doing while at Pumpkin. It also provides a greater means of communication between the home and service environment and communication with families. If you have not registered for Storypark please check your e-mail.



Playground... This month the Starfish and Lionfish playground has been remodelled. The Starfish and Lionfish have frequently observed the construction and enjoyed to see the different machinery being used. The Starfish and Lionfish have suggested what they think the playground will look like once complete. Some suggestions have been a swimming pool and even a large sandpit. This has led to the Starfish and Lionfish creating their own constructions sites which was extended through creating their own road and construction site signs. The Starfish and Lionfish also pretended using hammers to fix items and stating that they want to be builders when they grow up.



Sandpit... This month the sandpit has had a growing interest. While in the sandpit the Starfish and Lionfish have been observed expressing their imagination and creativity.



We have had various food, drinks and cakes being made and shared with peers and educators. As well various digging to find the bottom on the sandpit and to find treasure. The Starfish and Lionfish have also requested to have the larger trucks in the sandpit too.



Pirates and Treasure... Leading on from the Starfish and Lionfish finding treasure in the sandpit and the interest in pirates we have had countless treasure hunts



using coins. These hunts have both been in the sandpit and within the learning environment. This has led to the Starfish and Lionfish counting how many coins they have and comparing if it is more or less than peers. This was once again furthered to



include literacy and numeracy through writing the alphabet and numbers on the coins. To extend this interest the Starfish and Lionfish have made their own pirate hats and maps which they used to find treasure. Starfish and Lionfish have also engaged in a walk the plank game.



Dramatic Play... The Starfish and Lionfish have been observed expressing their imagination and creativity through the means of dramatic play. While inside we have had countless picnics and dinner parties.



While outside the trolleys and dolls have been requested. The Starfish and Lionfish have also pretended to be doctors and dentists using the doctors and dentists' kits.



Gross Motor Activities... The Starfish and Lionfish have expressed an interest in gross motor activities which was furthered through our news topic. The Starfish and Lionfish have collaborated to create their obstacle course using a variety of resources such as hula hoops, tunnels, stepping stones and balancing beams.



in various ball games such as soccer, basketball and ball and bat games.



Ooshies... This month the Starfish and Lionfish have been sharing the ooshies they have collected for news. This has led to countless discussions in relation to what ooshies they have, which ones they want and why they like them. We have



researched the collection using ipads and the prowise board. To further this, we have researched the different types of ooshies and completed simple experiments using them. For example, seeing if they glow in the dark and how they change in water.



Puzzles... Throughout September the Starfish and Lionfish have requested various puzzles. Once out the Starfish and Lionfish have been observed collaborating to complete the puzzle as they engaged various problem-solving





techniques. Once done proudly showing peers and educators. Favourite puzzle being the Paw Patrol puzzle and then the princess and jungle animal puzzle.

Until Next Month,

Starfish and Lionfish Educators 😊