



TERM 2 APRIL-JUNE 2023

CPELC NEWSLETTER

Updates and Reminders

EXCEEDING RATING

It has been a time for celebration here at CPELC, as we achieved our new rating - EXCEEDING!

Committee members, management and teaching team have all worked extremely hard to get results that reflect our centre and the quality of care we aim to provide all children and families who are apart of our CPELC community. After all the hard work and dedication we received an exceeding result.

What does exceeding mean?

As a service, we are assessed against the seven quality areas of the National Quality Standards (NQS), an overall rating is then given based on these results. The seven quality areas are Educational Program and Practice, Children's Health and Safety, Physical Environment, Staffing Arrangements, Relationships with Children, Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities, and Governance and Leadership.

Ratings given include -

Significant improvement required, Working towards the NQS, Meeting NQS, Exceeding NQS, and Excellent (this must be additionally applied for once you receive an exceeding rating if the service should wish to do so)

For more information visit -

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/assessment/assessment-and-rating-process>

Teaching team and committee members enjoyed a celebratory dinner.



Room Name Changes - Indigenous Names

As we continue to work towards our vision of unity between the Indigenous and non Indigenous communities we have changed our room names to show inclusivity and respect of the Indigenous community.

Earlier in the year we had a visit from Murrindindi, an Aboriginal Elder of the Wurundjeri peoples, who gave us permission to use the Indigenous names of some Australian animals for our new room names.

Each rooms teaching team chose the new name for their rooms.

Moving forward our room names are:

- Coobaaroo (6m-2.5yrs)
- Mirrin (2-3.5yrs)
- Woolert (3yr Kinder)
- Babajin (4yr Kinder)



Updates and Reminders continued..

CCS CHANGES

There have been some changes to the child care subsidy and the family income limits are increasing. How will this affect you? Your subsidy may increase, if you were currently not eligible for subsidy this may have changed.

Please visit the below link for more information on how your subsidy may have changed

<https://www.education.gov.au/child-care-subsidy-campaign>

KINDER ENROLMENTS 2024

Have you given your enrolment form for Kinder 2024 to management? Please see management for any further information or questions you may have, places are filling fast so get in quick to secure your child's spot!



Sustainability Updates

Recently we have been campaigning to members of parliament to fund the centre to get new bins for the centre. After sending out many emails, we are pleased to say we were successful and got new bins from Monash council, thanks to Kathrine Connor from the department of Early Childhood Education we got some new bins. We were excited to get our new recycling and rubbish bins for the rooms. The children have been showing a great interest and it has started many conversations about what we use and what bins different items go in. Over the next term the children will be learning more about this area after discussions with educators. Maybe at home you can continue the conversations and practising which bin colour is the correct one.

The vegetable garden will be up and running again next term. The Babajins have been having discussions about what to plant. We will be focusing on it is not just planting the vegetables but the importance of looking after it and maintaining the condition of it. This will hopefully encourage the children to show an interest in the cycle of looking after the land and what it can produce.

The Woolerts have been collecting water in the water gauge and are very excited to read how much water we are getting after a rainfall. This also leads to learning about the natural environment as well as caring for environment.

While at Nature Explorers the children continue to point out rubbish and discussions about where it will end up if not picked up. It has been wet and muddy but lots of fun. We have been noticing different bird life as well. We have noticed when it is slightly raining a bird species is flying low across the oval. If anyone knows what sort of bird it is we would love for you to share with us.



NAIDOC Week 2023

FOR OUR ELDERS

While Indigenous culture is spread throughout our curriculum NAIDOC week offers opportunity for conversations and learning about the Indigenous communities - this year in particular Indigenous elders and their role in the shaping Indigenous communities.

Bobbi Lockyer was announced as this years poster competition winner. See link below for more information on Bobbi's journey.

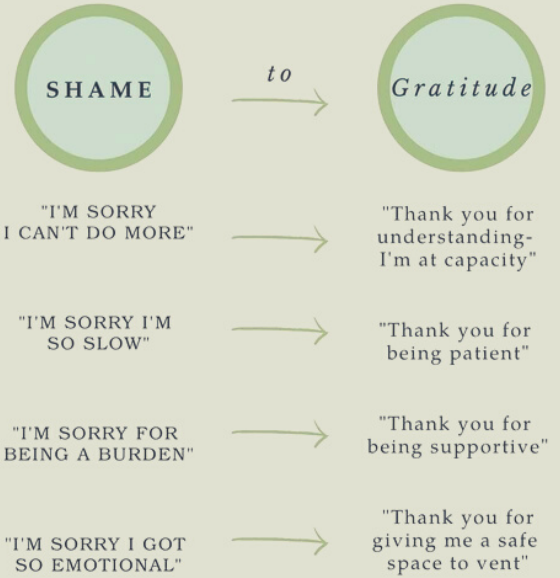
<https://nit.com.au/11-05-2023/5925/for-our-elders-bobbi-lockyer-announced-as-naidoc-week-poster-competition-winner>



NAIDOC Week 2-9 JULY 2023
For Our Elders, Bobbi Lockyer
 Where there is knowledge there are our Elders. Our Elders paved the pathways for us, taught us our knowledge, our history, they passed down their art, stories and wisdom. Our Elders are the foundation of our communities and role models for our children. With this poster I wanted to...

Shifting from

@balisticallygrace



Gratitude

CHANGING WORDS,
 CHANGING MINDSET -
 SHAME TO GRATITUDE

Swap the word "shame" for "Gratitude" when thinking about past experiences. This simple change can shift your mindset and help you focus on the valuable lessons you've learned.



Coobaaroo News

We are half way through the year and the children have come a long way in their learning and development. We have been providing experiences to help support the children to work towards goals and learning outcomes. They are all comfortable in their environment here and this is evident in how they have confidence to interact with learning activities and with others. The children respond to the familiar routine and are building on self- help skills and the ability to try new things.

They also are gaining a sense of community with participating in Nature Explorers and Aboriginal perspectives, as well as other cultural experiences. We also had the Police excursion which we extended on this with Emergency Services play spaces. The children are beginning to engage in more social and group play and establishing those positive relationships with others.

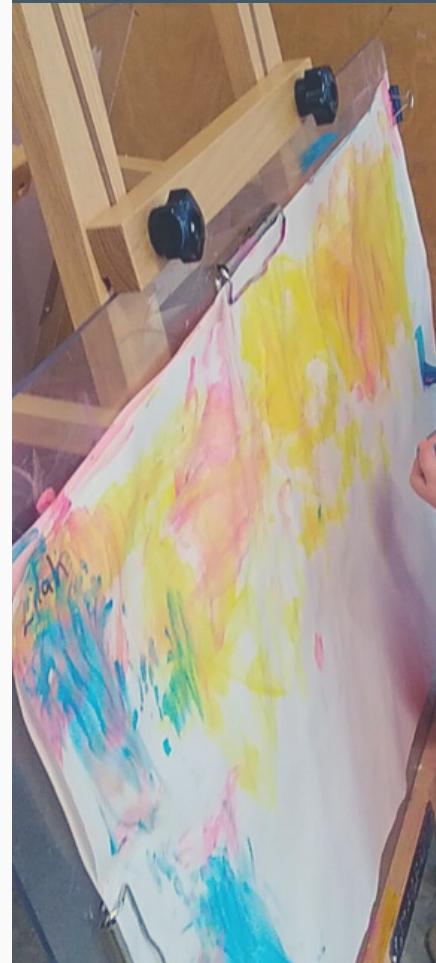
We observe what the children are showing interest in and scaffold this with intentional teaching. Some of this learning has included basic colours, numbers (1-5), music and movement, books, dramatic play, physical play, fine and gross motor experiences .Providing these resources assists children to build on motor skills, language and cognitive development.



One of the children's favourite things is outdoor play. They can get out in the fresh air and release all the energy their busy little bodies have. They have shown lots of enjoyment in playing in the new yard and have mastered balancing on the rocks, sliding down the slide, lots of messy play with mud, water, sand and tanbark play and riding the bikes. Wet weather doesn't stop us enjoying all this outdoor fun and learning. We appreciate families providing wet weather gear as it makes the play more comfortable for the children as well as saving on washing at home!

Finally, we endeavour to work with families to care for the children and help them to thrive in their growth and development. So, we ask parents to share with us anything they are doing at home, this might be something they are working on with the children or simply anything they have enjoyed on the weekends. We can extend on this through our planning and programming.

How can you be practicing self-help at home?
Self serving meals, using tongs, pouring water
Self dressing
Brushing teeth
These encourage confidence and building up of self-esteem





Mirrin News

This term we had the National Simultaneous Storytime which was 'The speedy sloth' By Rebecca Young, Heath Mckenzie. Stories are a great opportunity to develop language and communication skills. What books are your children reading at home?

We celebrated Dragon boat festival on the 22nd of June by reading a book Peppa pig book 'Peppa's Dragon Boat Festival'. We have also spent time celebrating other special events such as Mother's Day and having the mother's/ special person come for morning tea/ afternoon tea and a play with their children, Baisakhi with bright colours and listening to some music. We see the children expanding their knowledge of their community as they engage with the many different cultural events throughout the term,



We have been discussing with the children about correct rubbish disposal. This has been an extension from the children's interests at Nature Explorers, when the children see rubbish on the ground we discuss where this goes and the effect it can have on the environment. Further extending this, we now have our new bins within the room for children to dispose of their rubbish within the room correctly.

On the 30th of May we had the Police excursion. Two Police officers attended the service in their patrol car and the children got to explore the vehicle, they even turned the siren and lights on for us!

To climb a tree is for a child to discover a new world.
-Froebel, Education of Man





Woolert News

Simultaneous Story Time

At 11 am we joined in with 2.18 million other participants in Australia's Simultaneous Storytime.

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.

This year the story was "the Speedy Sloth" written by Rebecca Young and illustrated by Heath McKenzie. We watched on the projector as the Author read the story to us and then after the illustrator showed us how he made the main character Spike come to life with his drawing. Then some of the children had a turn themselves at drawing a sloth. Over the next few days we did some research on Sloths to learn more about them. We learned that they live in trees, eat leaves and are the slowest mammals on earth.



Police Visit

The Police officers told us all about the car, pointed out the lights and also turned on the sirens. It was very loud but we liked it. It was then time to have a look inside the car and we saw walkie talkies and lots of screens. Officer Graham then showed some of the tools that Police officers carry. These included a torch and a camera, which he used to show us ourselves. He then showed us his special glasses and gloves that they use to keep themselves safe.

We then headed back to the centre where we met the Babijin children and educators in their room. The Police officers then came in and talked to us all. They talked to us about all the different jobs that Police officers can have and looked at pictures of the different vehicles Police travel in.

We then had another look at the Officers uniforms and what they carry on them before they offered the opportunity to try on their vest and some Police hats. 2 of the children volunteered to have a try of them on and the rest of the children decided that they would just have a look at them all close up.

Play builds
brain pathways
for thinking,
creativity,
flexibility,
empathy, and
many other
lifelong skills

-Heather Schumaker



Woolert News continued...

Rain Gauge Project

Recently we have introduced a rain gauge to the children. We talked about the gauge and that it measures how much rain has fallen, so we put up the rain gauge onto the fence and each day we have been looking at the rain gauge and talking about how much rain has fallen and that we use the units of millimetres to measure it. The children have been really excited each day, going out and looking at the amount of rain in the gauge. We take a look and then we write it onto our chart each day. The children regularly go up and check the chart. It's been a great opportunity to introduce the children to measurements as well as talking about numbers and days of the week. Keep an eye out for the chart and see how much rain we have been getting.



Mothers Day

During the week before Mothers Day we were lucky enough to have many Mums come and join us in the room for morning or afternoon tea. They enjoyed a yummy treat of muffins (and one day Richards famous Apple Crumble) and then engaged in some activities with the children. The children loved showing their Mums all the fun things that they do at Kinder and the mums said they had a great time.



Nature Explorers.

The Woolert children have been having such a great time at Nature Explorers this term. They have been making the most of the wet weather and playing in the puddles and the mud. They have been exploring the areas and finding lots of interesting things such as the mushrooms growing in the tan bark, the birds that have been busy in the trees looking for food and we have been working on our climbing skills.



Babajin News

HOKEY POKEY -LEARNING DIFFERENT LANGAUGES

We are learning the Hokey Pokey in Woiwurrung, Mandarin, English and Korean and we will then learn in other languages too. Please feel free to share how you say hand, foot, body and bottom in your home language for us to learn and add in to the song.

NATIONAL SIMULTANEUOS STORY TIME

The Speedy sloth: The Speedy Sloth tells the story of a sloth who loves to run fast and challenges other animals to a race. The book is a rhyming story that celebrates all winners, especially those that don't come first. They discussed about the story and their favourite part.



OUR BIGGEST MORNING TEA

The children all had a turn to make some chocolate chip cookies that they sold to raise funds. They are beginning to understand what charity is and how we can help others. They aren't just for us to eat now. They enhanced their awareness about terms of measurement as we used-1/4 cup, teaspoons and mixed changing the property from solid to liquid. They smelt delicious and really enjoyed eating them. The centre raised \$415 for the Cancer Council.

ANZAC DAY

We read books, engaged in discussion, made ANZAC biscuits and used art materials to make and draw poppies. We discussed what ANZAC day stands for- Australia New Zealand Army Corps and the importance of ANZAC day and the children shared their learning- They asked what ANZAC day was and why we made biscuits. This inspired further conversations. Whilst cooking I read a book and had discussions about what the children knew about the ANZACS.

SORRY DAY

We read the book and this provoked lots of questions and learning- Lots of the children recognised the Aboriginal flag. What they could cook in a camp fire. Lana & Heidi asked, "What is sorry day?" The book depicted children being taken away from their families- the stolen generation.



Babajin News continued...



RESPONSIBLE PET PROGRAM INCURSION

If a dog approaches you the safe thing to do is stand still with your hands by your side, look down and be quiet as a mouse, look down at the ground and wait until the dog has gone away. Then take 2 small steps back and look around and go and tell an adult. They practiced this technique and listened to the song.

-We looked at photos of dogs and when we do not approach or pat a dog- When it is eating, sleeping, with babies, tied up, sick/injured, in a yard or back of the car/ute. NO OWNER, NO LEAD, NO TOUCH! Let them be! They sang songs consolidating on their learning and were given a poster to add tick and cross stickers to.

-We also looked at photos and talked about how you can tell if a dog is scared, happy or angry.

They pretended to be an ANGRY and scared dog.

-We talked about when it is safe to pat a dog. Stop, Ask, Smell and Pat! Ask the owner; "May I please pat your dog!" Then make a fist and place your hands by your side. Walk in a curve like a smile and stand in front of the dog. let the dog sniff your fist; does it wag its tail? Does it lick your hand? Does it growl? Go to the side of the dog and pat between collar and tail. They practiced the technique with Ziggy the dog.

Visit www.pettown.vic.gov.au -It features 'Victor and Victoria's Pet Town' – an animated interactive tool for children based on the program's safety messages. Children can also play games in 'Pet Town' with Victor the dog and Victoria the cat.

Our police visit

The day finally arrived for the Police visit. The Constables were so impressed with the Babajin children's knowledge, questions and insight of the Police force.

We looked at the marked car and inside as they observed they have the same GPS as some of their parents' cars and, use a similar tablet/iPad to get alerted of jobs. They also listened to the radio and looked at themselves at the body cam. They read the word Police, recognised the blue and white checks, said call 000 for Police, Fire and Ambulance and asked lots of questions.

They spoke about how the siren and lights are used in an emergency so they can let the traffic know they need to get there fast to keep the community safe.

We then came inside and the Police showed us lots of pictures and the Babajin & Woolert children eagerly shared the answers about the different Police vehicles and animals. They also spoke about Pedestrian and water safety.

They were fascinated by their uniforms as they looked at their ID's, different caps, torches, body, camera/video, radio, gloves, glasses. They spoke about their mouths being their most important piece of equipment as they communicate with others.

Children cannot go to jail and they spoke about how most of their job is helping others and keeping people safe. The children spoke about 'bad guys' going to jail and I discussed how it is not just bad guys, sometimes good people make mistakes. This led to further discussions.

They also shared their knowledge of calling 000, what their full name is and they are continuing to learn their address.





Babajin News continued...



MOPA EXCURSION

MOPA- What an amazing venue as the children actively explored all day. They were very excited to go on the bus and they were able to engage in many different interesting and exciting activities. They worked together, engaged in problem solving and had so much fun. The staff at MOPA were very impressed with their listening and engagement.

Why we encourage and support children in climbing trees... and safe risk taking -



15 Reasons to Climb a Tree

1. Climbing trees can help develop physical strength.
2. Tree climbing helps develop focus and concentration.
3. Climbing trees can boost self-confidence and self-esteem.
4. Tree climbing is an excellent gross motor activity for physical development.
5. Climbing trees can help children become more flexible in body and mind.
6. When you climb trees you form new more complex neural networks in the brain.
7. Tree climbing helps develop a resilient "I can do it" attitude.
8. Climbing trees helps children become problem solvers.
9. Tree climbing helps us develop a better connection with ourselves.
10. Climbing trees provides a rich sensory experience for the developing child.
11. Tree climbing helps us learn to think for ourselves and feel confident about the choices we make.
12. Climbing a tree can help develop strong spatial reasoning skills.
13. Tree climbing is a great way to strengthen the mind and the will.
14. Climbing trees helps us connect with nature.
15. You get a great view!

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