Welcome back everyone. I hope you had a lovely break. The term has started smoothly and all children are happy to be back, as are we happy to see them. We love listening to the holiday stories and this is a big part of our day to day programme “Oral Language”. 

Research tells us that families are becoming so busy that listening and talking to children is something that is diminishing. We often give our child a DVD to watch in the car, an ipod while we are shopping and an ipod at footy practice. All of these things are stopping conversations which children need, not just put your shoes on, tea is ready or time for bed, but conversations, back and forth to enhance their oral language skills (questioning, new vocabulary, extending their sentences and knowledge). Without strong oral language skills, reading and writing will be difficult.

As we head into winter the weather is bound to be inclement with wet and cold days occurring regularly. The outdoor learning environment changes and different experiences can be enjoyed by the children.

To encourage explorations and discovery of nature in the wet our children will be able to be outside in all types of weather, provided they are suitably clothed. We would appreciate if you could send along appropriate clothing to support them in their discovery and play. Gumboots, rain jackets, wet weather pants and umbrellas are all useful. Please clearly name all items and alert staff that they are in their bag so they can dress the children appropriately when accessing the outside. Even when it is not raining the sandpit is quite often damp and if children have wet weather pants this will help your child feel more comfortable.

Thankyou for supporting your child in experiencing this type of play. As our philosophy statement says “Our practices reflect the importance of all children having opportunities to spend quality time in the natural environment. Both our indoor and outdoor environment promote curiosity, wonder and provide opportunities for challenges and risk taking”

“There is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing”
FUNDRAISING and PROMOTIONS:
Management have approved the following fundraising events for the year.

TERM 2
- Plates/mugs/calendars (children’s drawings)
- Bunnings BBQ (we will be looking for helpers to cook and serve at Munno Para on May 31st)

TERM 3
- Facebook Auction
- Wheelathon

TERM 4 –
- Market (proposed date 31st October)
- Living products.

Management hope that by having the fundraising plan available to families, it will enable you to make a more informed decision about how you would like to support the centre. We do not expect you to tap into everything.

The picture products are due back on May 22nd. Please see admin for your templates.

Please contact Ruth on 0424 440 464 if you can help with the BBQ at Munno Para on Saturday the 31st May. We hope to car pool. Many hands make light work.

We have had a basket of Arbonne products donated, we will take this opportunity to raise money by raffling the basket. Tickets can be purchased at the front desk or at our stall on the Gourmet weekend.

MOTHER’S DAY HIGH TEA
Hopefully you have all received your invitations in your pockets. We have just had to change the dates of the morning tea to:
Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th of May to ensure that we can capture both Kindergarten groups.
Please feel free to pop in anytime between 3.00pm – 5.30pm on either day to have some yummy afternoon tea, bring your own teddy or favourite doll, do some crafts with your children or get some information about Zonta, a local women’s service club who are involved in a range of activities in our community. We are really keen for any significant women in the Childrens lives to attend so grandmas, carers etc are all invited.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA
This year there will be two events with:
❖ Play Group holding their Biggest Morning Tea here at the centre on Friday 29th May.
❖ Whole of Centre morning tea on Thursday 28th May.

We hope to have a morning tea for staff, children and families to support this great cause. More information will be in the next newsletter.

CIRCLE OF SECURITY
A reminder that this great parenting group starts next week, Monday 4th May from 1.00pm – 3.00pm at the centre. This is the first group of its kind to be held in the area and we look forward to providing this as an ongoing service each term.
Circle of Security is a free, 8 week program to assist parents to better understand their children. A free crèche is also available – talk to Jo Kelley if you are interested.

Thanks for Reading
Amanda