



# Rostrevor Kindergarten

## Newsletter Term 1 Week 1 January 2021

Diary Dates:

27 <sup>th</sup> January	Term 1 starts (Blue Group)
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Term 1 starts (Yellow Group)
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Rebecca Mumford Greenhill Living Gardening with the Children
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Fees Due
18 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00 pm AGM (Governing Council Meeting)
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Friday
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day Term One

Welcome back everyone to the 2021 Kindy year! We hope you are all refreshed and ready for an exciting term ahead! We know that this year at Rostrevor will be a positive, enjoyable and rewarding experience. We are fortunate the staff will be remaining the same this year, Tina, Vicki and Rachel are full-time, Angela works Tuesdays and Thursdays and also when I have meetings. Kimmy is working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays doing bilingual support.



### Learning Environments

I have attached some photos of the learning environments we have set up inside. We are excited for all the children to arrive and immerse themselves in many learning experiences as they begin their Kindy year. The weather is going to be warm so we will have lots of water play outside in the trough and in the sandpit. At the beginning of the year we always make it a priority to focus on building and developing relationships with the children and families. During the next few weeks we will be helping the children settle into Kindy so they feel safe and comfortable. Some of the ways we will be doing this are: discussions at group time about being kind to each other, stories, encouraging children to approach us for assistance, learning each other's names through group games and supporting them to adjust to Kindy routines. Our program for the next fortnight will be available soon. Each newsletter will highlight our program and how it links to our curriculum document the Early Years Learning Framework.

The program focus for the next fortnight Links to Learning Outcome 3: *Children have a strong sense of identity* This is evident, for example, when children:

- increasingly co-operate and work collaboratively with others
- demonstrate increasing awareness of the needs and rights of others.

### SunSmart Policy

Each family can access a copy of the Sun Smart policy on the website.

To comply with SunSmart guidelines, the policy states sun protection is used during terms 1, 2 and 4 (August until the end of April) and whenever UV radiation levels reach 3 or above at other times.

**Clothing:** When outside, children are required to wear loose fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, closely woven fabric is recommended. Tops with elbow length sleeves, collars and knee length or longer style shorts and skirts are best. If a child is wearing a singlet top or dress, they need to wear a t-shirt/shirt over the top before going outdoors. *We have ordered some polo shirts which we hope will be arriving soon.*

**Sunscreen:** SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum and water resistant sunscreen is available for **staff and children's use**. Sunscreen is applied at least twenty minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours. If outdoors, children, are encouraged to apply their own sunscreen under the supervision of staff.

**Hats:** All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears, i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats. Baseball or peak caps are not considered a suitable alternative.

Reminders:

**Please place names on all your child's items.**

**What to wear:** It is essential that your child is comfortable and is able to take part in all Kindy activities. This means they need practical shoes (no thongs). **Please always check your child's bag** to ensure there is a change of clothes. The children love wet sand and mud, and sometimes have bathroom accidents so a change of clothes including underwear is definitely a necessity. If your child comes home in spare clothes please wash and return them so we can use them for another child

We also have some Kindy T-shirts for \$22 and they come in a range of nice bright colours.

Hats are \$12.00 or if you buy both its \$30. Please see Rachel if you are interested in either of these items.

**Food:** Children are encouraged to place their lunch boxes on the lunch trolley (please make sure they are clearly named). They need to leave their fruit in their bag. Cold meats, cheeses, yoghurts need to have an ice cold pack to keep them cold fresh and safe to eat.

We also have children who are severely allergic to all nuts, so can you please ensure that there is not any nuts or foods containing nuts in your child's lunch box. **Nut allergy** children can potentially have an anaphylactic reaction to them.

We thank families for your co-operation.

**Relaxation:** We will provide children with some mats for resting. We will ensure these are disinfected after each use. The children rest for approximately 20 minutes after lunch in the afternoon.

Fees:

We would appreciate if families could please pay the fees by *5<sup>th</sup> March 2021* (Invoices are in your Kindy pockets).

If you are paying by cash please put all money to be paid to the Kindergarten in a sealed envelope with your name, the amount and what the money is for. This can be placed in the black fee box near the office entrance.

Receipts are written by staff for cash payments fortnightly.

Governing Council:

The AGM and first Governing council meeting for the year is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00 pm. All families are welcome and it is not too late to join us if you want to be on the Governing Council.

Attendance:

Weeks 2 and 3 are our reference weeks for staffing based on attendances. Unless your child is sick please make every effort to bring them to kindergarten in these weeks.

*If you would like to speak to a staff member during drop off or pick up time we try to make ourselves available but please be mindful, that especially in term one, our main priority will be settling the children in for the day. If you need to make a time for a discussion please feel free to let us know.*

Signing In and Out:

Please support the Kindergarten staff to safely look after your child by ensuring you sign your child in and out of Kindergarten each day. Thank you to those families who have been doing this. Older siblings under the age of 18 aren't able to collect siblings or sign them out as these sheets are a legal requirement. The sign in sheets will be available on the trolley on the verandah to support social distancing.

DECD immunisation policy

Thanks for all the families who have provided copies of the immunisation statements. If you receive an updated copy can you please forward it to Kindy.

## Simple steps to help stop the spread of Germs and Covid 19

It's important that we all take steps to prevent illness and stop the spread of disease.

The best way to stop the spread of illness is to practice good hygiene.

- We encourage all staff and students to wash their hands regularly, particularly after using the toilet and before eating
- Please use the alcohol based sanitizer placed at the gate/service entrance for each parent and child to use on arrival.
- We have changed the routine to reduce children accessing the bathroom at the same time.

- Staff will continue to wipe down frequently touched surfaces and all learning areas.
- We will encourage children to cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue and/or their elbow. .
- We will encourage children to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth.
- If your child is unwell, please keep them home so they don't spread infections to others.
- If children have a temperature above 37 the child will be isolated and if its 38 and over we will ring the family immediately.

### **School drop-off and pick-up**

Parents should maintain the 1.5m physical distance between themselves and other adults (parents and teachers) at all times, including at Kindergarten drop off and pick up.

*Tina, Vicki, Rachel, Angela and Kimmy.*

**Daily Checks:** (You can do this with your child to help them to become independent, you could also take photos of their belongings to make sure they have everything they need....)

- Does your child have a hat in their bag?
- Does your child have sunscreen on?
- Does your child have a drink bottle in their bag?
- Does your child have spare clothes in their bag?
- Is the fruit packed separately (not with your lunch) and enough for morning and afternoon tea?
- Please check your child's pocket indoors for information.
- Does your child have a health care plan/medication they need.
- Please remember Kindy times are 8.15am to 3.45pm



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Please clearly write your email address below and cut off this section and return to kindergarten:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ parent of \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to receive the newsletter and other important information via e mail instead of in my note pocket.

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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