



## KinderMarlee November 2015

### End of Year Celebration and Christmas Closure

Please keep Saturday morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> December free to come along to the centre and celebrate the end of the year with us 😊

The centre will close for Christmas from **Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Dec** and reopen **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**.



### Word of Mouth

KinderMarlee is a little centre with a big difference and we appreciate families letting other families know about it!

We will be pleased to pass along a \$250 gift card as a thank you to our families that refer people who enroll for at least two days per week.

The gift card will be issued after the first fortnight of attendance, to make sure the new family has settled in with the centre.

So when you let everyone know about the wonderful work our dedicated team is doing 😊 - make sure you tell them to mention your name!



## 2016 IMMUNISATION AND CHILD CARE FEES

Please be aware that under the new Federal Government policy, children who do not have current immunization status will not be eligible for any form of childcare subsidy. This will come into effect from 01 January 2016. If you are concerned about how this may affect you, please speak with Janet or Sam for assistance. Information from the Government about the No Job No Pay policy, and resources for advice, will apparently be provided to services soon.



Make sure you make a habit of checking out the photo displays and documentation on whiteboards in the Café and rooms – and the Kindy News in the foyer.

These can be a lovely conversation starter with your child. All children are able to participate in the activities shared, even if they are not captured in the photos shown



## Remembrance

All through the year, but particularly on November 11, we remember and acknowledge the tremendous contribution and sacrifice made for our country by our military forces. When working with under fives we carefully consider how to share tradition in meaningful and relevant ways. The creation of poppy's has significance for older children but is not very useful for younger ones to make connections to people and loss.

We would like to hang a photo in our hallway of a local soldier, from any time/year, as our adopted representative of Remembrance. If and when children ask who is in the picture, educators will say "That is a soldier who lived near here. He (or She) went to war to keep us safe. We are so lucky he looked after us." .... or similar words that will have meaning for children, without delving into any specific details or politics. 😊

If any families have a photo of a service person that they would be happy to donate to the centre, we would love to develop our own tradition of gratitude, respect and honoring the work of our soldiers.





**Routines** Children are encouraged to be responsible, to learn to **look after themselves and their belongings**. It is important for parents to be supportive by allowing time for pick up and collection – giving their child time to sort out their own lunch box and items. It is also important to arrive in time for “*Open of the Day*” and subsequent smaller gatherings from 9.00am. Commencing the day at the morning meetings helps children feel part of the group; and is a shared time to offer ideas and plans for the day. It also supports children to understand responsibilities and contribution, and is a time to sing and celebrate.

*Please assist your child upon arrival to –*

- Place their lunchbox in the fridge. **(Thank you to parents who are not sending insulated lunch boxes anymore.)**
- Place their drink bottle in a fridge or on top of a locker.
- Place their bag in a locker of their choice.
- Remove their shoes and socks and place in their locker.
- Greet an educator and start to play.

*At collection assist your child to –*

- Check if their lunch box is in their bag – and get it from the fridge if needed.
- Collect their drink bottle..
- Ensure their shoes, socks and hat are in their bag.
- Check if they have their rest sheet/blanket.
- Say goodbye to one of the educators and carry their own bag.

We are very much aware that it can be irritating for your child to have left personal items throughout the centre and not be able to locate them when leaving. It is a good lesson for children to go through this frustration and begin to understand that this is what happens when they leave things about. It is a slow lesson for sure, but worth sticking with 😊. It’s also important for all personal belongings to be clearly marked with a name... in the instance it is left lying about, the team will know who to remind.

*When leaving, please check your information pocket in the hallway.*

**Directions in 2016:** The children have become so capable at using the rooms in the centre and making choices about their play and interests that we are ready to move towards developing more sustained experiences shared between a group of children. In 2016 the educators will work with particular assigned groups of children on a regular basis and plan projects appropriate to their ages and interest's. The children will be involved in creating a name for their group 😊 For eg, educators will be paired and work with a set group of children at particular times, Catherine and Danielle for younger children, Karen and Andrea for the middle group; Jane and Jillian for the Kindy cohort - and follow a series of experiences that are planned with and for those particular children throughout the coming months. Parents will know who their child's group primary educator is and information about the planned experiences will be documented and shared, so parents can enjoy the group's efforts and discoveries. We will also adapt/include some resources in each of the rooms to ensure that each space is as flexible as possible, dynamic and multi age appropriate.

As respect, independence and agency are fundamental parts of our philosophy, and well recognized as critical for healthy development, children will still be able to access all rooms and have plenty of time for mixed age interactions and open play. This community direction will provide educators with regular opportunities to work closely on specific plans with the same children over extended periods.



We have been delighted to observe children demonstrate how capable they are when given opportunities to be truly heard and actively participating in decision making. The learning curve has seen them move from being unsure about their own capacity, to testing boundaries, to being confident and contributing community members – across all the ages. It has been a privilege; and we are very excited to take our teaching to an even richer place next year.



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## Learning Through Cooking

Cooking is a routine, and very important part, of our daily experiences as a learning community at KinderMarlee.

When children come together to cook, they have opportunities to explore a diverse range of skills and concepts...



Children become foundation scientists as they mix ingredients (dry/wet, dry/dry, wet/wet) and discuss what happens, they get to experience the change in compounds as something is cooked, and work with a variety of tools and appliances.

They explore numeracy and literacy concepts as they discuss, predict and compare – measuring, guessing, chatting, “reading” recipes and following instructions, taking turns.



And at the end, children come together to share the fruits of their work – in a giving act of friendship and care.

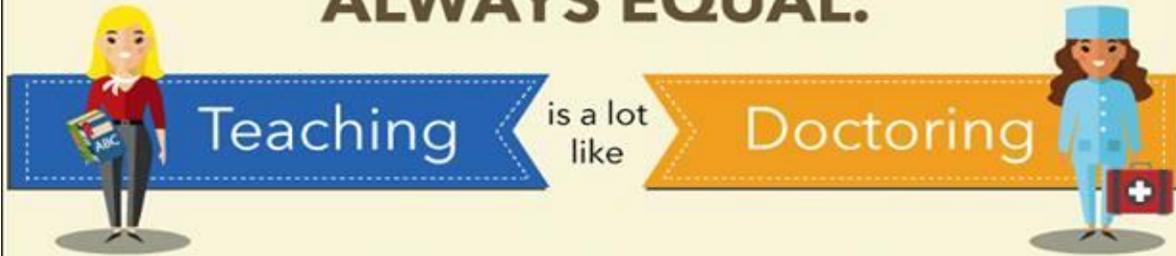
Janet & the KinderMarlee Team



Did you know that if babies bodies grew at the same pace as their brains... they would weigh around 170 pounds by one month of age!



# FAIR IS NOT ALWAYS EQUAL.



Teaching

is a lot like

Doctoring

Kids go to a doctor **with different needs**:



What if the doctor said the **same thing** to all of them?



Only **one kid** would get what he needs.



And that's **not fair.**



It's the same thing in a classroom.

Every student has **different needs**:



So **different students** should get **different things** to help them succeed.



And that's what makes a classroom **fair for everyone!**

