



"Together we care, nurture and learn."

Ulverstone Child Care Centre

Newsletter- Dec 2019



Centre News As we draw close to the end of term 4, the centre has been a hive of activity. We are busy preparing for Christmas and have had some very busy days, continuing to welcome new families and children.

The children attending the pre-kinder visits with our educators have enjoyed going on the bus and engaging in the activities at the schools.

The Big Room sandpit shade cover has been replaced and the Young Endeavour shade sail is due to be re-fitted this week as it needed tightening. With the U.V increasing daily we will be having times during the day for shade play and remind parents to pack sunhats and sensitive sunscreens where required.



Joinery Products will commence work at the beginning of February to install our new kitchen at Young Endeavours, new cupboards in the Big Room indoor area, new cupboards and change tables in the Big Room and Toddler Room bathroom and new cupboard doors in the Toddler Room bedroom. We will work around the installations of these combining rooms where necessary.

Our Annual Family Christmas party is on Friday the 6th of December commencing at 5.30pm. We invite families to come along and enjoy the festive season, with a visit from Santa, balloon sculpting, face painting and party food for all to enjoy.

On Thursday the 5th December children 3-5years will have the opportunity to experience Bravehearts' personal safety education program *Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show*. Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show has been educating Australian children since 2006, providing them with personal safety tools and strategies while supporting positive self-esteem and resilience building. Parents and guardians are welcome to come along and watch the show on the day and see what a fantastic worthwhile program it is. The session will be held at 11.45am. A letter for parents will be sent home prior to the show.

Staffing..... There will be some changes to staffing within the centre next year. Lois will be joining the Baby Room team, Rachael will be working in the Big Room with Mel and Tracy and Michelle is moving to the Toddler Room to join Abbey. Ally and Stephanie will be working in the Young Endeavours with Amanda. Our casual staffing pool will fill additional days in all rooms.

Sadly Tamieka will be leaving us at the end of November. Tamieka has worked at the centre for over 10 years, beginning as a student while studying her certificate. Tamieka has worked with all age groups and her experience will be missed within the centre. We wish Tamieka all the best with her role in Disability Care.



Community Links Thankyou to the students from Ulverstone Secondary College and their teacher Hannah Mee for the well planned and thoroughly enjoyable excursion to Fairway park. The whole centre participated in this excursion and with a convoy of prams, educators and children we walked to and from the park with the assistance of the students. Once at the park the children enjoyed the equipment, parachute and other games organised by the students, exploring the beach with short walks for each age group and before heading back to the centre, a picnic lunch.



Dental Clinic Visitsthe Big Room children will be visiting the Ulverstone Dental Clinic on Tuesday the 26th November from 10-10.30am. The Young Endeavour Children will be visiting on Thursday 5th December from 10-10.30am.

Students ... We welcome Monique King from Tas Tafe, Monique is studying certificate 3 in Early Childhood and will join us on Wednesdays.

Thankyou to Ulverstone Secondary College's 'Child's Play' Class year 9 and 10 students that have been visiting us on a Monday and Wednesday. These students have assisted us with routine tasks at different times during the day, participating with the children and engaging with them with their play.

Vacation Care.....Our Vacation Care program will commence on December 20th. Activities on offer include, Launceston Aquatic Centre, Silent Disco, 360 Martial Arts, Slipstream Circus and Zorb Balls. Programs are available at the office and please ensure bookings forms are back by December 9th.





Big Room News ... The Big Room Children have been exploring sensory play through foam, cotton, cooked pasta, goop and soapy goop activities. They have experienced the range of textures each activity provides, while building their social development through group play and conversation. Over the last couple of months maternal and caring natures have been displayed with doll play, using prams and beds. Many dolls and teddies have been brought in from home to use in the children's play. The new kitchen furniture has been very popular with lots of cooking and role play, and playdough has been an addition they have enjoyed. With Christmas approaching the Big Room children have begun creating gifts,

decorations and paintings to celebrate the festive season.



Toddler Room News..... The children in the Toddler Room have been exploring the creative arts as they engage in Christmas craft individually and in a group setting. We have been exploring our literacy skills through stories, songs, picture cards and role play, which the children have shown great enjoyment in. This literacy learning has also involved learning each others names through interactive songs and games at group time. This has given the children confidence with their language and to pronounce each others names.



Young Endeavour Room News... The children have had fun exploring and creating a new play space in the sandpit. The children and educators worked together, using shovels and spades to dig some long, deep waterways. Once the digging was done the children helped to carefully line the waterways with foil, pressing it into the sand. The children were very excited when it came time to add the water. They filled their buckets from the tap then tipped them onto the foil, turning our waterways into flowing rivers in the sandpit. The children explored our two rivers, adding cars and animals to the space. They also talked amongst themselves, asking questions to each other and the educators as they played. It was wonderful to watch the children's imaginations blossom as they created games together using their imaginations, exploring how best to play in their new space.



With Christmas

just around the corner Young Endeavour children and educators have been busy creating a Christmas wonderland in our room. We have all enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit through stories, songs and of course crafts. Some of the special crafts the children have enjoyed making include

salt dough reindeer's, baubles and a group Christmas tree, which is displayed in our room. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed creating lots of beautiful gifts to share with their families. During group time children have been excited to share with their friends all the different things they would like from Santa.

Baby Room News... On Tuesday 29th of October the babies participated in the whole centre walk to Fairway Park, where we played games with the help of the Ulverstone Secondary College. They also had lunch there and explored some of the equipment in the park.



Over the last few weeks the babies have had the opportunity to explore the large outdoor foam fort. This enables them to develop their gross motor skills and balance, as well as contribute to shared play experiences and social interactions. We are delighted to have about 5 babies who are transitioning from crawling to walking. They are constantly pulling themselves up on each other and jostling for position, demonstrating their increasing balance, gross motor skills and persistence.



Before School Care... Colour mixing paints



While children assisted with the preparing and making of paints during Before School Care discussions were had about primary and secondary colours. Mia was observed attempting to use the primary coloured paints to make secondary colours voicing excitement with her success. Mixing colours combines art and science in one experiment. Un-beknown to the children throughout this experience they are practicing skills such as problem solving, mathematical concepts such as more or less together with varied conversations strengthening relationships with their peers and educator.



Reminder: Booking forms for 2020 are due back to ensure your space for next year. Parents who will be away during January please ensure you let the office know for cancellation fees.



Staff Profile Hi, I'm Bianca and I started working at the UCCC in May this year. I have enjoyed getting to know all your beautiful children during this year and look forward to seeing their happy little smiles every day. I have been working in the childcare sector since 2008. I have been lucky to work with all age groups and have spent a large portion of my career at Outside School Hours Care. I have two wonderful daughters, both are now adults and two little grandchildren aged 1 and 2 years. My little grandchildren keep me busy outside work hours and in my spare time I enjoy bushwalking, kayaking and gardening.





Policies reviewed Sept/Oct.....

- Recently the service has reviewed our **Medical Conditions Policy and Risk Minimisation Plan** in line with Regulation 90 of the Education and Care Services National Regulations. This regulation requires a risk-minimisation plan for the management of medical conditions for children in care, including a communication plan. It is a critical condition of our service that parents complete the risk minimisation plan for children with any medical conditions in order for the service to have full written details on the care and treatment of each child's medical needs. Parents are also required to complete the communication section of the form whenever changes occur regarding their child's condition.
- All educators recently participated in an updated child protection training session. It was a valuable session, providing educators with the knowledge and access to support services. There is a new advice and referral website, Strong Families, Safe Kids, and 1800 phone number for any person, including children, families, guardians, and professionals who may wish to seek advice, support or guidance around child safety and protection.

Celebrating 40 years!

Our centre will be celebrating our 40th Year as 'Ulverstone Child Care Centre' with an open day on Saturday February 16th 2020. On the anniversary date, Tuesday 18th February, we will be celebrating with a party themed day at the centre. Further information and details will be finalised in the New Year.



Dates to Remember

- * 5th Dec
Ditto program
- * Friday 6th Dec
Family Xmas party
- * Centre closes
6pm 24th Dec

Our OSHC Services

East Ulverstone
Outside School
Hours Care

Forth Before and
Outside School
Hours Care

Penguin Outside
School Hours
Care

Before School Care
Ulverstone
Child Care

We would like to wish all our families a magical Christmas and a safe and happy new year. Our services will be closing at 6pm on 24th December, Christmas Eve and re-opening at 7am January 2nd 2020.

I will be on Annual leave from Monday December 8th 2019 to Friday January 17th 2020. Brooke and Lois will very capably fill my role during this time.

Merry Christmas



Andie & Staff.

